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Gay Community News

THE WEEKLY FOR LESBIANS AND GAY MALES

BIPAD: 65498

MEANWHILE, BRAD FINISHES READING THREE ARTICLES ON BOSTON'S MAYORAL RACE IN THIS WEEK'S GCH AND...

RING!!

... NOW I'M IN CRISIS, DAN! I DON'T KNOW WHETHER TO BASE MY VOTE ON WHAT'S POLITICALLY CORRECT OR POLITICALLY EXPEDIENT!

GEE, I'M NOT SURE I CAN HELP BRAD...



GayCommunityNews

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July 23, 1983

GRNL, NGTF Funding Discrepancy

Reagan Signs 1984 Health Emergency Bill

By Bob Nelson

WASHINGTON DC — President Reagan gave the first signal that his administration is taking the AIDS crisis seriously, by signing a bill providing for a \$30 million "public health emergency fund" in fiscal year 1984. If funds are appropriated, the legislation will create an emergency fund under the discretion of Health and Human Services Secretary Margaret Heckler, who can declare a public health emergency and draw on the money for research and public education.

Early reports on the Administration's stand indicated that the President would oppose the bill on the familiar ground that money could be diverted from other programs in the event of an emergency. A \$15.6 billion supplemental appropriations bill, which includes \$12 million for AIDS research in 1983, now in a House-Senate conference committee, is likely to be vetoed by President Reagan, for that reason, according to sources at the Gay Rights National Lobby (GRNL).

Secretary Heckler had told the U.S. Conference of Mayors meeting in Denver last month that the President was asking Congress "to grant me the broad authority to reprogram funds for AIDS research," rather than pass a new appropriation.

"That \$30 million is a whole

new concept in public health," said Bart Church, legislative assistant for GRNL. "It establishes a federal public health fund for the first time in history, one that the Secretary can draw on if Congress is tied up or out of session." Church added that he thought that the toxic shock and Legionnaire's disease epidemics were problems that helped convince Congress such a fund was needed, but that the AIDS crisis was clearly uppermost in Congressional thinking when the \$30 million fund was passed by unanimous consent in both houses before the July 4 recess.

Several other AIDS funding measures have been introduced for fiscal year 1984, including two bills sponsored by Rep. Mario Biaggi (D-NY) which would allocate \$20 million for AIDS research to the Centers for Disease Control and \$40 million for the same purpose to the National Institutes of Health. And Rep. Barbara Boxer (D-CA) has introduced similar bills that would respectively provide \$10 million and \$20 million in AIDS research funding for the two agencies.

Church noted that the Biaggi and Boxer bills were "individual appropriations bills" meant to serve as tools for communicating the need for increased funding to Congress and that they had no

chance of passing. Such legislation is sometimes introduced to lobby for a level of funding sponsors favor, levels that are sometimes incorporated into later more serious proposals. Church added that GRNL would work to gain Congressional support for the Biaggi proposals as they had for the Boxer bills.

But, according to an article by

Larry Bush in the July 18 New York *Native*, there has been disagreement in the gay community about the "responsible" funding levels for AIDS in 1984. Ginny Apuzzo of the National Gay Task Force has called for a level of \$100 million in a May 20 letter to HHS's Heckler, but Bush writes that the Gay Rights National Lobby has been privately telling some Con-

gressional staffers that the NGTF proposal is too "radical" and that only half that figure is really needed.

Asked to comment about his repeated criticisms of GRNL, Bush told GCN that "I don't have it in for them. It's just that I'm concerned about incompetence on the AIDS issue, whether it's Ronald Reagan or GRNL."

(Continued on page 3)

Guild Takes Pro-Gay Stand

By Sue Hyde

NEW YORK — The Newspaper Guild, the nation's largest union of editorial employees, has passed a resolution in support of nondiscrimination on the basis of sexual orientation at its fiftieth annual convention in Cleveland, held June 27 to July 1. And the executive committee of the Wire Service Guild, the largest of the 82 locals in the union, passed a similar resolution that also established a gay caucus within the local.

The resolution came in response to the refusal of Associated Press, the nation's largest print and broadcast news service, to adopt a sexual preference non-discrimination clause in contract negotiations with the Wire Service Guild. AP and the Guild reached a three-year settlement in the first week of June that did not include the clause.

In an employee bulletin issued on May 4 in response to non-discrimination proposals by the Guild and by the United Telegraph Workers, a technical employees' union, AP asked whether adoption of the clause would force it to protect "child molesters and rapists." AP also wanted to know if a transvestite, which it identified as a male homosexual in women's clothes, would be the appropriate reporter to assign to the White House. (See GCN Vol. 10, No. 43.)

Dan Carmichael, a UPI employee in Dallas and an openly gay member of the Wire Service Guild executive committee, told GCN that he had been responsible for shepherding both resolutions

through the appropriate committees to final passage. "I can tell you that the most recent issue of the *Guild Reporter* was being passed out as the members were arriving at the convention," said Carmichael. "It contained a story about the AP allegations that without a doubt sensitized the delegates to the problem."

The article in the June 24 issue of the *Guild Reporter*, TNG's national bi-weekly newspaper, set forth details of an internal AP memo, released by the Wire Service Guild on March 3 that described a sexual preference non-discrimination clause in effect at UPI since 1980 as "unusual."

But the *Guild Reporter* article also included some questionable language. The second paragraph of the piece read, "The vehemence of AP's rejection of those proposals provoked severe criticism in the homosexual-advocacy press across the United States and spurred a move to form a caucus of homosexual employees of the wire service."

In a letter to the union paper, Dave Walter and Bob Nelson, spokespeople for the newly-formed Gay and Lesbian Caucus of the union, commended the *Guild Reporter's* coverage of the dispute with AP, but protested the use of the phrase "homosexual-advocacy press."

"An oversight we're sure," write Walter and Nelson, "but certainly no one calls the *Guild Reporter* 'labor-advocacy press' of the New York Times 'establish-

(Continued on page 17)

Rep. Studds Comes Out

By Larry Goldsmith

WASHINGTON, DC — As GCN goes to press on July 14, U.S. Representative Gerry Studds (D-Mass.), in response to accusatory statements from a Congressional committee, has taken the floor of the House to announce that he is gay and to affirm that he had a consensual sexual relationship with a 17-year-old male Congressional page in 1973. Although Studds called the relationship "a very serious error in judgment on my part," he repeatedly stressed that the relationship was neither illegal nor a violation of congressional standards of conduct.

Studds and the page reportedly had sex in the District of Columbia, where the legal age of consent is 16 years.

The House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct has recommended that Studds be officially reprimanded but not removed from Congress or committee assignments. In his statement on the House floor, Studds said he could establish both his innocence and the improper conduct of House investigators. But, he added, he would not exercise his prerogative to demand public hearings in order to protect the privacy of others affected by the allegations.

By affirming his sexual preference, Studds becomes the first openly gay member of Congress.

The House committee took similar action against Representative Daniel Crane (R-Ill.), who reportedly had sex with a 17-year-old female page in 1980. Responded Crane: "I'm sorry I made this mistake, but there's no way this violates my oath of office. I hope my wife and kids will forgive me."

The Committee made no allegations of preferential treatment given the pages by the two representatives as a result of the sexual relationships. But investigators did charge that James Howarth, Majority Chief Page in the House doorkeeper's office, offered preferential treatment to a 17-year-old female page with whom he had a sexual relationship in 1980. Howarth also reportedly admitted purchasing cocaine in the House cloakroom in 1979 and 1980.

Congressional investigators said the investigations of sexual conduct are now over, but added that investigations of Congressional drug use are continuing.

Following is the text of Studds' statement on the House floor:

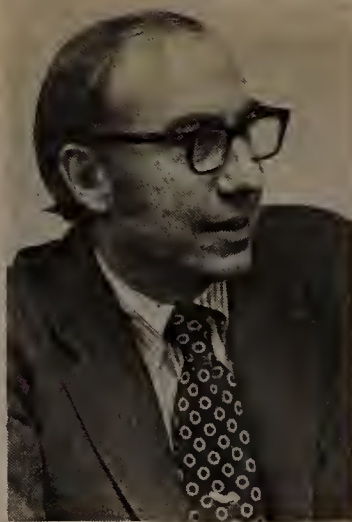
"It is not a simple task to meet adequately the obligations of either public or private life, let alone both. But these challenges are made substantially more complex when one is, as am I, both an elected public official and gay.

"The staff of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct has spent more than a year and hundreds of thousands of dollars on an investigation, the

the full House. If I had chosen the first option, to insist on a series of full public hearings, I would, I believe, have been able to demonstrate beyond a doubt that (a) the staff of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct exceeded the investigatory charge it was granted by the House pursuant to House Resolution 518; that (b) the private, consensual relationship discussed in the Committee's allegation did not meet the Committee's own definition of improper sexual conduct; and (c) the investigative conduct of the Committee's staff in general raises fundamental questions with respect to the right of privacy and procedural fairness. These were for me extraordinarily strong reasons to insist on public hearings with respect to the allegations. My own personal instincts have virtually compelled me to contest the Committee's recommendation. But I have foremost in my mind the need to protect, to the extent it is still possible given the Committee's action, the privacy of other individuals affected by these allegations. Those individuals have a right to personal privacy that would be inevitably and irremediably shattered if I were to insist on public hearings. It is apparent to me, after prolonged personal reflection, that the preservation of that right to privacy is more important than proving in public the validity of the points I have made.

"Another consideration contributing to my decision is that I have an obligation to my constituents to perform to the best of my ability as a member of Congress on issues of enormous importance and complexity. The demands on my time and energy which a public fight on the issue raised by the Committee's actions and procedures would require, would make it much more difficult to do the job which I have been elected to do. Accordingly, I will not contest procedurally the course of action recommended by the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct. In so doing, however, I repeat that in my judgment the mutually voluntary, private relationship between adults which occurred ten years ago should not by any conceivable standard of fairness, rationality, rule or law, warrant the attention or action of the House of Representatives of the United States."

— filed from Boston



Representative Gerry Studds

News Notes

letters we never finished reading

BOSTON — During these days surrounding the anniversary of the July 7, 1982 arson attack which destroyed *GCN's* former offices, we're all just a bit sensitive about anything suggesting flames. So imagine our surprise when a letter arrived in last week's mail from the office of the state fire marshal. The results of the arson investigation, perhaps? A confirmation of our long-held suspicions? Or at least an indication of renewed interest in the now-dormant investigation?

Guess again. The letter was merely a governmental form letter soliciting our participation in the Suffolk County Arson Prevention Program. "Even if your particular community has not experienced a major arson problem," writes program director James Murray, "the potential for arson is always a possibility, whether the motive be profit, revenge or vandalism. A community prepared to get involved in the fight against arson can do much to stave off arson and the deterioration and suffering it brings."

Sign us up right away, Mr. Murray.

endorsements

BOSTON — The Boston chapter of Black and White Men Together (BWMT) voted on July 10 to endorse the candidacies of Mel King for mayor and David Scondras for District 8 city councillor.

According to a statement released by the group, the membership felt that "having the two of them in office would do much to ease racial and homophobic tensions in the city, and make Boston an even more attractive place in which to live."

new director for gay studies institute

BOSTON — Clinton Anderson, president of the Boston Institute of Gay Studies, Inc., has announced the appointment of Richard E. Miller as its executive director. Miller will oversee the day-to-day operations of the Institute.

Founded in 1981, the Institute is a repository of gay and lesbian literature available to students, researchers and the general public. For information, call 482-0897 (evenings).

boston project neighborhood hearings

BOSTON — Three hearings to provide gay and lesbian citizens the opportunity to discuss safety, housing, health and economic development in their neighborhoods will be conducted on the evenings of July 25, 26 and 27. Coordinated by Brian McNaught, the sessions will focus on neighborhoods as they are defined by the City Council and School Committee districts.

The schedule is as follows: Monday, July 25, Districts 1, 7, 8; Tuesday, July 26, Districts 2, 3 and 4; Wednesday, July 27, Districts 5, 6 and 9. Part of the Boston Project to determine how the city can better meet the needs of gay/lesbian citizens, the hearings will be held from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. in Room 801 of City Hall.

the new lepers

CHICAGO — The author of a recent report suggesting that Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) may be transmitted to children through ordinary household contact has followed up his original article with a letter warning against treating AIDS patients like "lepers."

Writing in the letters section of the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, Dr. James Oleske notes that "when reasonable precautions are followed (those modeled after treatment of patients with Hepatitis B), we believe that there is no reason to subject these patients to the intense social and psychological isolation some now experience. Patients with AIDS have even been referred to as 'the new lepers.'"

According to a press release issued by the American Medical Association, Oleske's original article "suggested that children living in high-risk households (those in which adult members were at risk for AIDS) are susceptible to AIDS and that sexual contact, drug abuse or exposure to blood products was not necessary for disease transmission." (See *GCN*, Vol. 10, Nos. 43 & 47). However, the statement adds, "publication of the information led many to believe incorrectly that AIDS could be a readily transmitted disorder."

british columbia dykes convene

VANCOUVER — Six hundred lesbians from every part of British Columbia met May 20-23 for a conference of cultural events, workshops and networking. The weekend included a Pride Parade through downtown Vancouver complete with floats, balloons and singing and chanting lesbians.

A provincial association for British Columbia lesbians was formed. Called the "Provincial Connection," the group will facilitate communication, resource-sharing and support networks throughout the western Canadian province.

aids notes

The United States Department of Health and Human Services has announced the installation of a nationwide AIDS hotline. The hotline will operate between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time and can be reached by dialing the toll-free number (800) 342-AIDS. Public Health Service employees staffing the hotline will answer questions about the syndrome and make referrals to health professionals where necessary.

The New York State Health Department issued a 60-day emergency rule on July 8 making it mandatory for physicians, hospitals, and public health officials to report all cases of AIDS within the state. According to the *New York Times*, reporting of the illness had previously been voluntary. California is the only other state which has mandated such reports. Reporting to the federal government is voluntary.

Reported cases of syphilis and gonorrhea have dropped nationwide so far this year, and some health officials have attributed the decline to changes in sexual activity sparked by fears of herpes and AIDS.

Joe Blount, a statistician for the federal Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, said syphilis cases dropped about 3 percent in the first 24 weeks of this year, as compared to a 7.5 percent increase in 1982. Gonorrhea dropped 6.6 percent in the same period, compared with a 3 percent decrease in 1982.

Yale University has announced the recruitment of 1,000 gay men as part of a four-year national study of AIDS. Professor John Dwyer of the Yale Medical School told the *New York Daily News* the men will undergo complete physical examinations and provide blood samples every six months for four years.

New York City Health Commissioner David Sencer announced on July 27 that the number of AIDS cases has continued to increase in the city but at a rate slower than had been predicted.

James Curran, head of the AIDS task force at the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta announced at the same time that while the total number of AIDS cases continues to rise nationally, the rate of increase appears to be decreasing on that level too.

"My feeling is that the number of cases will continue to increase gradually, but more slowly and accompanied by a leveling off," Curran told the *New York Times*.

two denominations act on church policies toward gay/lesbian ministers

In recent developments, two Protestant denominations have taken steps which may ease their church policies towards gay men and lesbians.

As reported in the *New York Times*, the United Church of Christ has accepted a report affirming that the sexual orientation of a candidate for ordination should not be reason to reject that candidate. The report was overwhelmingly accepted by a show of hands at the biennial General Synod, which closed on June 29.

While the Church of Christ report does not call homosexuality in the church acceptable, that is the interpretation given it by many delegates.

In another *Times* article, more than two-thirds of the 79 regional units of the United Methodist Church have asked that the church's position on homosexuality be clarified at the 1984 General Conference. Fifty-nine regional units requested that the church's highest decision-making body consider the question when it meets in Baltimore next May.

Both *Times* articles note that the ordination of openly gay and lesbian ministers is a growing concern in a number of Christian churches, as is "the addressing of contemporary problems in sexual ethics."

hispanic lesbian elected student body president

MINNEAPOLIS — Kaarina Ornelas has been elected Macalester College student body president. No big deal, except that Ornelas is both the first lesbian and the first Hispanic to be elected to that office, according to *Equal Time*.

Ornelas said the campaign was "dirty." "My main opponent stole student newspapers and burned them when the paper endorsed me. There are rumors he even threatened to beat people up in student government," Ornelas told *Equal Time*.

The election had a record turnout, with 47 percent of the 13,000 Macalester students voting. Ornelas won by a narrow margin over five other candidates.

Ornelas was elected on the strength of gay/lesbian support and did not have strong backing from other Hispanic and minority students. She blamed "strong Catholic" anti-gay sentiments and a perception that gays and lesbians do not constitute a "real minority."

homophobes picket fayetteville film screening

FAYETTEVILLE, AR — The June 27 screening of the gay/lesbian film *Word Is Out* was picketed by a group calling itself "Anti-Gays of Arkansas," according to the *Northwest Arkansas Times*.

Over 50 people attended the screening as four anti-gay demonstrators picketed the public library. *Word Is Out* was the last activity for a local group's celebration of pride week.

Don Robison, organizer of the picket, said the group's goal is "to get legislation on the ballot to abolish gay activities in the state of Arkansas." Robison elaborated by saying that he wanted to restrict gay people from meeting in public places and from "flaunting their lifestyle to the world."

Arkansas Gay and Lesbian Rights of Fayetteville members, organizers of pride week activities, distributed a press release which said, "In response to the protestors we would like to remind them we are taxpaying citizens who are entitled to our basic human rights which are guaranteed in the First Amendment to the Constitution. We have the right to assemble in a public facility and the right to freedom of speech."

A spokesperson for the rights group said later, "It's just silly. It's [the picket] happened before and I'm sure it will happen again."

activist appointed to county commission

WASHINGTON, DC — A gay activist has been appointed to the suburban Prince George's County Human Relations Commission, according to the *Washington Post* and the *Washington Blade*.

Wayne A. Lerch, who has also promoted women's issues and the rights of the physically handicapped, was nominated by County Executive Parris Glendening. Glendening had received considerable gay support in last year's election.

The County Council approved Lerch's nomination on July 5 in a 5 to 3 vote. The *Post* reported that Glendening had made a personal visit to a Councilmember opposed to Lerch's appointment, to ask him to refrain from making an issue of Lerch's sexuality during the vote. That Councilmember, William Amonett, excused himself at the time of the vote, to "go to the bathroom."

Lerch was the only one of the 12 nominees to the 13-member commission who was not unanimously approved by the Council. Lerch has said that he would like to see the passage of legislation banning anti-gay discrimination in the county.

feminist activist denied tenure

SANTA CRUZ — After a year-long review and formal hearing by a University of California—Santa Cruz (UCSC) faculty promotion committee, outgoing President David Saxon rejected the committee's favorable recommendations and upheld the denial of tenure to feminist activist professor, Nancy Shaw.

The Privilege and Tenure Committee had said on March 22 that Shaw's right to an unbiased personnel review had been violated in several areas. Shaw had originally been highly recommended for promotion, but that recommendation was rejected by UCSC Chancellor Robert Sinsheimer and Shaw was then subjected to an internal review ordered by Sinsheimer. Supporters and the faculty committee agree that the internal review was biased from the outset. It was the internal review which formally overturned the original recommendation for Shaw's tenure.

Shaw, because of special action by the UC Board of Regents, will teach for an additional year in the UC system.

israeli rights group reports improvements

TEL AVIV — The Israeli gay rights group, the Society for the Protection of Personal Rights (SPPR), reports that last summer's harassment of gay men in parks and other public places seems to have ended, according to the International Gay Association bulletin.

Representatives of SPPR have been in contact with the head of the Tel Aviv regional police. They have also appealed to the Israeli Attorney General and asked for an order to end the harassment. The group reports that their negotiations with the officials are not "final."

They said, "We view the fact that we were not fobbed off with any old answer as a sign that the appeal is receiving serious attention. We have decided to go to court for an order of the Supreme Court, if we do not finally get a positive response from the Attorney General."

Annual Women's Studies Meeting

Feminists Convene For Educational Quality

By Paula Krebs and Sandy Runzo

COLUMBUS, OH — The Fifth Annual National Women's Studies Association (NWSA) Conference, "Feminist Education: Quality and Equality," opened on June 26. The 1800 delegates confronted feminist education, racism, anti-semitism, and world poverty. Five days later the Delegate Assembly passed a resolution establishing an "Autonomous Institute" to deal with issues of concern to women of color at next year's conference at Rutgers University.

Accusations of racism made at the final plenary session by the Ad Hoc Committee of Women of Color resulted in the creation of the "Autonomous Institute" and the decision to hire a half-time conference coordinator to represent women of color. Chris Czernick, New England representative to the Coordinating Council and a member of the fundraising group, stated that the NWSA plans to raise money specifically for this new position.

The Delegate Assembly passed a resolution calling for increased visibility of poor and working class women, but defeated a recommendation for a plenary session devoted to these women, because next year's plenaries had already been set. Also defeated was a recommendation that 25 percent of the content of next year's ses-

sions and workshops focus on poor and working class women.

The new Lesbian Caucus representative to the Coordinating Council is Pat Gozempa, a tenured professor of Women's Studies and English at Salem State College in Massachusetts. Gozempa has been active in NWSA since 1977, serving as the New England regional representative 1977-1979, and as Coordinating Council secretary and chair of the Steering Committee 1979-1982.

Several sessions centered on lesbianism. Two hundred people attended a panel on Lesbian Ethics, which presented a framework of values and principles intended to distinguish lesbian ethics from feminist ethics and those of the dominant culture. Jacquelyn Zita, of the University of Minnesota, said that "there is no difference between our ethics and our politics" and that these ethics can help lesbians relate to each other as an oppressed people. Zita described two groups she has conducted in which members have shared coming-out stories and views on issues such as shame, vulnerability, trust, parenting, and monogamy, the "G-spot of the lesbian community."

The plenary session on "Racism and Anti-Semitism in the Women's Movement," although marked by tensions, provoked en-

thusiastic ovations from the audience.

At this session, Azizah al-Hibri, editor of *Hypatia: A Journal of Feminist Philosophy*, criticized the American women's movement for refusing to recognize the suffering of women around the world. The movement sees only "veils and clitoridectomies," she said, and ignores the wartime suffering of women and children in Lebanon and Israel. "The survival of third world women is a higher priority than the passage of the ERA," implored al-Hibri.

Evelyn Torton Beck, of the University of Wisconsin and editor of *Nice Jewish Girls: A Lesbian Anthology*, discussed forms of "Jew-hating," such as graffiti, "negative" and "positive" stereotypes, and indifference and blindness to Jewish oppression. Beck insisted that the NWSA take an official stand against Jew-hating, and that it must not fear being thought pro-Israel.

Carol Lee Sanchez, of San Francisco State University, spoke on the struggle to include ethnic studies in academia and about the profit in maintaining racism in our society. Barbara Smith, of Kitchen Table: Women of Color Press, described the complexity in discussing the intersections of black and Jewish identities, and called for political alliances among all

women.

At the closing plenary session on "The International Feminization of Poverty," Suzanne L. Velez, of State University of New York Buffalo, indicted the U.S. for its influence on Latin American poverty and described the violence committed against women and children in El Salvador. Charlotte Bunch, of Interfem Consultants, argued that American feminists must recognize the international feminization of poverty.

Deidre English, editor of *Mother Jones*, delivering the keynote address Sunday night, focused on the economic and political challenges confronting feminists in the '80s. English stated that although women suffer from the "double whammy" of occupying the lower echelons of the economic system while wit-

nessing the decline of the "breadwinner ethic," women have made gains in legislatures, in political alliances, and in consciousness. In the '80s, "we're looking to make feminism radical again," English concluded.

The public readings offered each night were packed. May Sarton, Margaret Atwood, Nikki Giovanni, Paule Marshall, Marge Piercy, Cherrie Moraga, June Jordan, and E.M. Brone each read from their work.

The feminist film festival featured the work of several filmmakers, including Michelle Citron, Jan Oxnberg, Lucy Winer, and Ulricke Ottinger. Citron showed her newest film *What You Take For Granted* which explores the difficulties of women who work in nontraditional jobs.

200 Rally Against Holbrook Rape Acquittal

By Janice Irvine

BOSTON — Expressions of outrage and disgust were the common themes as approximately 200 people gathered at a rally and speak-out on the Common on July 13 to protest the recent acquittal of the Holbrook 5.

"One function of this decision is to disempower women and we want to challenge that notion. Unified action challenged the initial court decision, so we feel that by uniting and showing our outrage, we can show that we still have power and can bring about change," said Laurie Kaslow of Boston Area Rape Crisis Center (BARCC), which, along with N.O.W. and the Rape Action Project, organized the rally.

Kaslow was referring to the highly publicized Holbrook case where, over 2 years ago, five defendants pleaded guilty to rape of a Whitman woman. Claiming that the woman had "questionable morals," the judge fined the men \$500, saying that they could pay it off in \$5 per week installments. Widespread public outrage led to a re-trial in Springfield. Last month the men were acquitted of rape, and found guilty of malicious destruction of property for their damage of the woman's car.

"It was because of our outrage... that the Holbrook 5 were even tried. Now, more than two years later, the same system has betrayed us again. It is fact that these men pled guilty to rape two years ago and it is also fact that this was not even admissible evidence at their trial. The jurors never knew. The rapists were never even questioned," said Jackie Wisotsky from BARCC.

Noting that there was never any question during the trial that the incident had occurred, or that the men had been correctly charged, Mona Zefel, of the Rape Action Project criticized the court's focus on the character of the woman. Zefel quoted a juror from the case, who had said, "What the men did that night was dishonorable, distasteful, and disgraceful. They took advantage of her, but they did not rape her. There was consent."



Jackie Wisotsky of the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center

Zefel said, "The issue and the only issue in a rape case should be consent. And consent to sex is not consent to rape. We know the difference if the judges do not."

Although the Holbrook case was the impetus for the rally, many of the speakers addressed broader issues such as rape, battering, sexual harassment, economic victimization, erosion of abortion rights, and sterilization abuse as major ways in which women are continually attacked and oppressed.

Issues of funding were raised, as Lisa Cole from the Department of Public Health stated that only \$75,000 had been allotted for anti-rape work for the entire state of Massachusetts. "The story of funds allocated to anti-rape work is the story of lack of funds," she said.

And Zefel stated, "And when they say they do not have the money we need, we know we are being robbed by the growing defense budget, which is not going to defend women but rather will be used against us and our sisters in our countries."

Outrage at the legal system was a clear focus of the day. Some women at the open mike discussed their own rapes, and subsequent lack of response from the courts. Others mentioned the recent cases

in Springfield, where a judge placed a man on probation after raping his daughter, and in New Hampshire where a judge ruled that a man was immune from prosecution for raping a 12-year-old because he reported the offense himself.

Zefel said, "By failing to protect women, the laws and the state have actively taken the side of the rapist." And in condemning the racism within the legal system, David Bilides of Emerge claimed, "White men just make sure that men of color are convicted and executed disproportionate to their numbers in the population. Ninety percent of rapists executed since 1930 have been black. So when a trial ends as this one has, it is simply business as usual."

Seneca Peace Camp



Ellen Shub



Ellen Shub

ROMULUS, NY — The Women's Encampment for Peace and Justice opened on July 4 at a farm near here. Opening day was complete with meetings (above) and radiated dykes (left).

Several hundred anti-nuke activists gathered at the campsite to plan a summer-long campaign of nonviolent protests against what organizers say is the deployment of nuclear weapons from nearby Seneca Army Depot to West Germany later this year. The Defense Department will neither confirm nor deny the existence of nuclear weapons at the 11,000 acre New York site.

Inspired by the Women's Peace Camp at Greenham Common in England, activities at the women-only Seneca peace camp will include educational workshops, vigils at the depot, leafletting of workers and an August 1 civil disobedience action at the Depot. The camp will remain open until at least Labor Day and perhaps longer.

Falwell Speaks, Cincinnati Responds

By Sue Hyde

CINCINNATI — At a July 4 appearance, Jerry Falwell, spiritual guru of the Moral Majority, accused politicians of avoiding strong action against AIDS because they fear the power of the gay vote. While Falwell blasted the Reagan administration for not putting its "full weight against... a gay plague," about 75 gay and lesbian Cincinnatians rallied to picket against Falwell.

In comments at a press conference held in connection with an "I love America" rally, Falwell suggested that Reagan might be blamed for "allowing this awful disease to break out among the innocent American public." Falwell offered a three-point plan to protect the "innocent American public" from AIDS and, presumably, to improve Reagan's chances for reelection next year.

Falwell urged that health officials at city, state and federal levels take steps to: require potential blood donors to submit to extensive questioning regarding their health and sexual orientation; close the bathhouses and other cruising spots; provide "firm guidelines" to public service and health workers who deal with high risk groups.

Not mentioned as part of his three-point plan, but included in a press release issued at the same time, was Falwell's suggestion that "healthy Americans"

donate blood immediately.

While Falwell alluded to a gay voting bloc so powerful it holds the federal government hostage, the counterdemonstrators offered a different viewpoint to interested media and passersby.

Jim Imholte, a programmer for "Alternating Currents" a gay radio program, pointed out that people who have AIDS are aware that they shouldn't donate blood, and don't. "Besides," said Imholte, "can they really say that AIDS comes from a gay person?"

Demonstrator Gilbert Heier said, "Blaming AIDS on homosexuals is like blaming polio on kids because they were affected by it."

Ronn Rucker, an organizer of the counterdemonstration and a therapist in Cincinnati, told GCN, "I was very pleased to see our community come together in a way I had not seen in a while. I think we all know we are threatened by this very dangerous man."

Members of a panel of local medical and mental health care workers organized by Rucker to respond to Falwell called Falwell's three-point plan a sales pitch for the Moral Majority. Falwell announced that he anticipates a doubling of recruiting and fundraising for his organization.

— filed from Boston
Additional information supplied by John Zeh.

Community Voices

big job

To the Editor:

Writing as women, as lesbians, and as present employees of *GayLife* newspaper, we would like to respond to Sharon Page's "Chicago Gay Paper Named in Bias Charge" in the June 4, 1983 issue of *Gay Community News*.

Our beginning employment dates range from August of 1982 to May of 1983, both before and after the addition of Erin Criss to our staff and the termination of Mary Kay Ryan and Chris Heim. Our experience during the time we have been employed at *GayLife* confirmed, once again, what is for us a most discouraging reality. Like Mary Kay Ryan and Chris Heim, the women's community appears to be consumed with a pervading negativism and an unwillingness to work for change within the organizations gay and lesbian people have worked hard to build.

We feel exhausted. There is yet much work to be done to win civil rights for us. Women should be participating in this process of development. What happened to the supposed female reverence for life and growth? Why all of this destruction and divisiveness? You want *GayLife* to be responsive to the needs of women? Well, respond to the requests from female employees here for written information concerning women's events. Come forward and offer to write for the newspaper. Respond to the advertisement from the Illinois Gay and Lesbian Task Force for volunteers. Respond to Laura's offer to help *SisterSource*, which discontinued publishing in October of 1982, get back on its feet.

Why has no one reorganized *SisterSource* if *GayLife* is so unresponsive to women's needs? Why has no one contacted *GayLife* with information regarding *SisterSource*'s problems or with a request for assistance? Why aren't Mary Kay Ryan and Chris Heim busy making *SisterSource* the forum and work environment they feel *GayLife* is not?

Maybe it is just easier to criticize. Building something strong and powerful in a positive way is a lot of work. It takes time and energy. Sometimes one has to work many hours in a day. Sometimes one has to have a generous attitude about a co-worker's lack of consideration, ignorance, or poor judgement. Maybe he or she is just tired and overworked, too.

Often, women do see ways a process can be more than just a means to an end. Often, we have insights that can humanize a process in order to begin living our lives in the manner our goals will insure for us. Usually a well-spoken sentence

teaches what an attack can not to often well-meaning co-workers. Sometimes patience and acceptance are necessary before learning can occur. Often, everyone has something to learn as the process continues.

As for fair play, we say we have been unfairly written off by Rhonda Craven as token female employees. We see ourselves as three of six female employees in a company employing fifteen people. Not all the people who work here are gay or lesbian because *GayLife* is an equal opportunity employer. We certainly do not want to repeat here the mistakes the heterosexual community has made in unequal employment opportunities for gays and lesbians. We see ourselves as people filling valued and valuable positions at the newspaper. One of us has been promoted twice due to evidence that she is willing to handle more responsibility and has the skills required to do so.

We see our current positions as providing revenue and growth for the newspaper, a living wage and personal growth for ourselves, and an opportunity for the community to use us as a resource and as a liaison with the newspaper and with the rest of the gay and lesbian community.

We could go and work somewhere else for better working conditions, fewer hours per work week, and certainly better pay, but we choose to stay where we are. Sometimes the work conditions bother us. It is too messy and too noisy here some days. Often there is too much to do and we have to stay late to get it done. Sometimes somebody makes remarks that annoy us. Maybe we just forget about it. Maybe we laugh at them. Maybe we point out his or her ignorance of our feelings concerning the remark and lack of consideration of those feelings. Mostly, we just remind ourselves we are doing what we like best — working for a company that is working to provide a forum for the gay and lesbian community to communicate with one another and with the world as a whole so that we will one day have equality as human beings on a planet that supports lives of quality for everyone.

Needless to say, this is a big job. The process is far from perfect. We would rather keep working on it, though, rather than find reasons to avoid doing anything constructive at all.

Laura Rizzardini
Jeneva Random Garrett
Elaine Otte
Chicago, IL

Gay Community News

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Postmaster: Send address changes to: Gay Community News, 167 Tremont St., 5th Fl., Boston, MA 02111

gunning

Dear Editors:

Being wrong is a fact of life for newspapers—even the best sometimes err, and all that can be asked is to print a correction. The same cannot be said for more egregious professional lapses, two of which *GCN* managed to commit (not for the first time) in its June 4 "news" article, "Chicago Gay Paper Named in Bias Charge."

Those lapses are (1) printing as one's own statement of fact what clearly could be known only as allegations, and (2) taking those allegations from an obviously prejudiced source without saying so. As a result, the *GCN* story's most accurate element was merely its headline.

The writer, Sharon Page is a political associate of one of the women who have filed complaints against us, as revealed by a jointly signed article by Chicago's Stonewall Committee published recently in *GCN* itself.

And the two complainants have maintained a close personal relationship for years, which a dispassionate observer might reasonably have speculated could influence their perceptions of any adverse personnel action that either of them sustained.

The falsehoods in your article and in the complainants' charges regarding alleged sex discrimination at *GayLife* are too numerous and convoluted to rebut fully in a letter, even with the generous space for readers' opinions that is a *GCN* saving grace. But I would like to make two points:

(1) For a variety of reasons that could merit an article of their own, nearly every paper that does not confine its coverage to lesbians' or women's news reflects an apparent imbalance in favor of gay male content. Some of this is a matter of definition, some a matter of fact; but it is a phenomenon that is linked with societal factors much beyond the immediate ability of any or all gay newspapers to transform radically.

What a newspaper can do is to maintain fairness in its own house policies on business matters and coverage, in addition to acting as it can to effect beneficial and anti-sexist social change. Though imperfectly, this is what *GayLife* has done and will continue to do. Its management will remain sensitive to opportunities for easing the limitations it shares with others (even the sanctioning of its own continuing ultimate social justice, but it will not apologize for what is not in its control.

If some lesbians do not read *GayLife*, if there is not separate local paper for them, if any of them are tempted to label personal inadequacy or a gay newspaper's financial problems as sex discrimination, I regret it, but as a publisher I will not browbeat myself or the paper's staff into inactivity as a result.

In fact, *GayLife* tries its best to cover lesbian news, is read by many lesbians and other women, runs announcements and articles submitted by women, has lesbian staff members and advertisers, supports lesbian and women's causes, and does not discriminate by sex—notwithstanding the claims of any disgruntled ex-employees or of a polemicist who, mirroring McCarthyism's essence goes gunning for "capitalists."

Incidentally, if I were the "Howard Hughes" the *GCN* article says I was called (supposedly by a man I unsuccessfully opposed for the Gay Press Association presidency, though *GCN* left that part out), I would have been much more in character and a lot richer if I had never saved *GayLife* from bankruptcy by buying it and sinking thousands of so-far-unrecovered dollars into it in the first place, or if I focused only on the lucrative gay male porn market.

(2) In one of several dozen instances of your writer's tendentious reporting on *GayLife*, she blandly assures readers that she "gave the standard definition" of affirmative action when asking whether our female business manager supported it. Not only should the exchange have been reported fully, but the simple truth is that no standard formulation of affirmative action exists.

A standard definition of bias, however, is "a highly personal and unreasoned distortion of judgment." *GCN* has given us a Page 1 example of just that.

Sincerely,
Chuck Renslow
Chicago, IL

It Feels Good to sustain *GCN*, and you get a lot back from us. The pledge form below gives you details, and artist Jennifer Camper gives you some points of comparison. Sustaining *GCN* feels as good as . . .



Coming out for Lesbian and Gay Pride feels good! We hope to see you there. Stop by our *GCN* table to buy a t-shirt, poster, or soda (no, we haven't come out with a *GCN* cola . . . yet). If you aren't a Sustainer yet, this is the perfect time to become one!

The 1983 Gay Community News Sustainer Program

Your pledge (minimum \$120 per year) brings you:

- a one year subscription to *GCN*
- the quarterly sustainer newsletter
- two introductory gift subs to give to your boss, relatives, ex-lovers, or friends
- a special invitation to the Second Annual Sustainer Party
- and the good feeling that comes with building a better paper and a stronger community.

☐ **I want to feel good! Sign me on as a *GCN* Sustainer for the next 12 months.**

☐ **We/I pledge to make quarterly payments of:**

_____ \$30 (\$120 annually)

_____ \$100 (\$400 annually)

_____ \$50 (\$200 annually)

_____ \$ _____

☐ **We/I would like to arrange the following payment plan _____**

(The minimum pledge is \$120 a year)

☐ **Enclosed is my first installment of \$ _____**

Name* _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

*As with all *GCN* correspondence, your name will be kept strictly confidential unless you agree otherwise. May we publish your name in our quarterly newsletter? Yes _____ No _____

Please mail coupon and payment to: *GCN*, 167 Tremont St., 5th Fl., Boston, MA 02111.

Speaking Out

The Challenge of Community

By Connie Chan

I was proud of the lesbian and gay community during Boston Gay Pride week last weekend — proud that we have such courageous and talented people, proud that we can work together, and proud of *GCN*'s ten years of struggle and success. This was my first Gay Pride, and yes, indeed, I wanted to strut, to dance and to celebrate, to show the world my pride in our strong lesbian and gay community. Most of all, I wanted to be part of a community where I can feel a sense of belonging and caring. Was I? Thinking back, one week later, I'm not sure.

It seemed to be all there... the Pride, the partying... *GCN* has a wonderful dinner at the YWCA. It was apparent to all that the paper holds a very special place in the community, and in the hearts of the many people who have nurtured it over the years. As an avid reader and firm believer in the important role that a newspaper plays in bringing a diverse community together, I was happy and proud to share in *GCN*'s birthday celebration. It proved that *GCN* has not only survived adversity, but has flourished.

I was proud, but something was missing. As I was joyously reunited with a friend who moved to Washington, D.C. a year ago, we talked of how wonderful it was that Gay Pride and *GCN* could bring so many different people back together for this celebration. She smiled, but remarked that she felt a little uncomfortable because the room was filled with nearly an all-white crowd. All of a sudden, as a woman of color, I felt very alone and isolated. She was right, of course, and living in D.C., has become accustomed to the way most communities are in other cities — communities where yellow, brown, and black skins mix in with white ones. Not here, however, not Boston. Not even in our own lesbian and gay community. Ironically, people of color are the most invisible of what is sometimes an already invisible gay community.

"Well, what do you expect?" a friend told me that evening, "Boston is a racist and separatist city. Naturally, a section of the overall community, even *our* community would reflect the racism that runs rampant in this city." As she spoke, my mind flashed back to the many times over the past seven years that I have been verbally and physically assaulted because of my race. My lover is a Black woman — together we make a distinctive (and in Boston, unusual) couple as we go about our lives together. We have been called "Nigger," "Chink," and assorted other racial slurs numerous times in every section of the city. Never have we been assaulted because we are a lesbian couple. Race has always come first — it is as if there is no need to look beyond color for further insults. To be a person of color in Boston seems to be crime enough.

"Besides," she continued, "it's not our fault that you members of the third world community won't join us. We're here for everyone. We try to encourage you to come to our gatherings. You're the separatists." I came back to the YWCA with a jolt. Our fault? Who is even speaking of fault? How can we measure years of oppression and isolation for either people of color *or* for gays by assessing blame? We may all have our pet theories of how and why it happened, but it is really only important now that it *has* happened and continues to happen. Racism continues to separate people of color from being part of our own community, the gay and lesbian community.

As the evening's festivities continued, I was struck by a recurrent theme centering upon

the fact the *GCN* was first a gay newspaper with largely gay male concerns. The lesbians realized that a tremendous resource was not being utilized by the lesbian community. As a result, lesbians became more active, recruited others, and worked hard to make *GCN* a paper truly representative of all facets of the gay and lesbian community. But this was not accomplished easily or overnight. Lesbians needed and received vital support from each other and from gay men on the staff. The same is true of the third world community. *GCN* is a vital resource and connection for the large lesbian and gay community. Without input and active participation of people of color, we will still be on the periphery of the community, never an active part of it.

The challenge, then, is to make Boston's lesbian and gay community a truly representative one. It is a challenge which begins with *GCN* and with the numerous other lesbian and gay organizations, and continues with the increased participation of people of color. As the established organizations holding the power, if you will, these organizations need to take positive steps to open themselves to gay people of color. *GCN*, as a representative of the overall community, needs to actively recruit people of color to be members of the staff — to help in establishing a link to the third world gay community. (The accent in the last sentence is *people* of color. Without strong support, an isolated individual is doomed for failure. Imagine *GCN* with a staff of all men and one lesbian. How long do you think she'd last?)

Like dialogue between lesbians and gay men, dialogue between people of color and white members of our community is a necessity: We have much to learn from each other, and to share about our different, yet similar lives as gay people. Look at the gay organizations you belong to. Are people of color involved in your groups? What are you missing by having largely white groups? How can you take positive steps to make your organization truly representative of the lesbian and gay community?

Racism may be rampant in Boston, but we as gay people, can, and must, do better. As we are all members of an oppressed minority, we should have an understanding and sensitivity to feeling invisible and powerless at times. The challenge is not a new one, but it is an important one: can the lesbian and gay community, and *GCN* in particular — in its role as the voice of the community — take positive steps to fight racism and make the gay community — *our* community, truly a community for all of its members: yellow, brown, black, white, female, and male?

"Speaking Out" is part of our continuing effort to provide a true forum of opinion for the community. We encourage you to send your ideas, feelings and comments to us and we encourage you to respond to any ideas expressed in this space. Submissions to "Speaking Out" should be TYPED and DOUBLE SPACED, and, if possible, held to under 5 pages in length. The opinions expressed in "Speaking Out" do not necessarily reflect the views of the newspaper, the staff or the advertisers. Write c/o Speaking Out, GCN, 167 Tremont St., 5th Fl., Boston, MA 02111

Community Voices

human rights

To the Editor:

We are a group of lesbian and gay activists in Chicago, who are concerned about the sex discrimination against *Gay Life*, the Chicago gay newspaper by Chris Heim and Mark Ray Ryan. We want to thank *Gay Community News* and author Sharon Page for informing the gay community about this case.

In its article about the case, *Gay Life* wrote that "The article [in *Gay Community News*] was written by Chicagoan Sharon Page. Last summer, Page publicly attacked *Gay Life*'s News coverage and editorial comment regarding attempts by the Chicago Stonewall Committee to organize a demonstration against the American Nazi Party when the Nazis announced an anti-gay rally during Gay and Lesbian Pride Day. Both Page and Ryan are affiliated with the Stonewall Committee."

We have written to *Gay Life* that we are concerned that Chicago readers might infer that the charges of sex discrimination are merely an expression of the Stonewall Committee's hostility to *Gay Life*. We do not think that this is the case. None of us witnessed the events at *Gay Life*, and we do not know Mary Kay Ryan, but several of our members do know Chris Heim and we know that she is not a person who would make frivolous accusations or false statements. We support her efforts to get her claim heard by the Illinois Human Rights Commission.

Sincerely,
Lesbian and Gay Branch of Chicago Democratic Socialists of America
Chicago, IL

free women

Dear Friends:

Thanks so much for running an article on the Money for Women Fund and our new grant for lesbians. We have received a wonderful response in regard to applications, but so far, not a single reader of *GCN* has sent in a donation.

At the Money for Women Fund, our motto is, "We Free Women to do Extraordinary Things." And we do, but we need your help. If we want to have great works by lesbians, we ourselves must nurture the artists who produce them.

We hope some of you will think about joining us in our effort by sending a donation of any amount. Remember that it takes bread to make roses!

In Sisterhood,
Karla Jay
43 So. Oxford St.
Brooklyn, NY 11217

up front

To the Editors:

Regarding the enclosed ad for *GCN* Tenth Birthday Posters and T-shirts, why don't you just print in big letters: NO FATS NEED APPLY. Then at least you would be up front about who it is you want to wear your damn t-shirts.

Come on, gang, this is the third (yes, 3rd) time you have been confronted about your fat oppressive policies. And yes, after three times of promoting t-shirts in sizes only up to extra-large, this is a fat oppressive policy — it may have been ignorance the first time, but now there is no excuse! Many members of the gay community are 2X, 3X, 4X and bigger!

You must have no idea how much pain and anger is caused by the oppression of fat dykes by our own community. I suspect, given the number of times you repeat this same oppressive "mistake" that you must not care. And if the oppression we fight daily must include oppression by our gay institutions, then we will fight there too! But think about how much energy we use in anger at each other that could go into support. If you want *GCN* to be a newspaper for the *entire* gay and lesbian community, stop fucking us over!

Angrily,
Judith Stein
Mances Platt
Judy Gage-O'Brien
May Roe
Kelly
Deborah Alford
Meridith Lawrence
Beryl-Elise Hoffstein
Marcia Duvall
Sandy Dwyer
Gwyn Marilyn
Maureen Latman

P.S. Before you offer any feeble excuses about difficulty in obtaining 2XL and larger t-shirts, I suggest you contact some community groups who have managed this "difficult" task on the first try. Examples include Am Tikva, Amethyst Women, and the Boston Area Women's Self-Defense Collective.

Subscriptions/Renewals

Sometimes our renewal and "Don't Stop Now" notices cross your checks in the mail or get sent out late, and sometimes, it seems, the demons in the computer give us renewal labels that are just plain wrong.

So, before you panic about one of these

immigration

To the Editor,

I am writing to comment on the articles that Larry Goldsmith did on Lesbian and Gay Pride in Burlington, Vermont, for *GCN*.

First of all, I think that Goldsmith did a generally good job in reportage on the march and rally. However, I was disappointed that he chose not to mention or did not notice an issue that I raised in my speech as an organizer of Lesbian and Gay Pride Day: the issue being that alien lesbians and gays face being deported or being prevented from entering the USA simply because of being lesbian or gay.

While citizens may not worry about this issue, it shows how precarious our position in this country is if alien lesbians and gay men may not be allowed to join us. Additionally, as a Japanese American who knows that half the Asian American population is foreign-born, I feel that immigration or lack of immigration is an important issue.

Sincerely,
Michiyo Fukaya
Burlington, VT

bullet-proof

Dear *GCN*,

Hi! I thought we might have some trouble with the mailroom censoring the last letter, but they allowed it to go through.

We are supposed to have 9 AIDS patients here but everyone of the prison officials are keeping mum. The plasma unit continues to be inoperative.

Did you hear what the New Orleans Gays did a few Sundays ago? They collected money and they donated all of it to the N.O. Police Department for them to get bullet-proof vests.

I love ya,
Joseph,
A prisoner.

notices, check the label ("left = _") on your brown envelope. It's more likely to be accurate. If that too doesn't look like the right number of issues left, send us a nice note (with a xerox of your check, if that's possible), and we'll fix it up. Thanx.

with the alliance

To the Editor:

Pursuant to the publication in the latest *GCN* of my letter to the editor, friends both within and without BLGPA have asked me to clarify my position toward the Alliance.

In the aforementioned letter I criticized the Alliance leadership (by inference its Steering Committee) for its blatant and lamentable partisanship in supporting Dennis Quilty, and its (at times) vitriolic opposition to the candidacy of David Scondras in District Eight. That criticism stands.

The clear intention of some prominent members of the Steering Committee was from the beginning to use the name of the Alliance to sponsor the candidacy of Dennis Quilty; a clear majority of the voting members of the Alliance prevented that from occurring by voting for David Scondras on endorsement night. Angered by the duplicity and hostility of the Steering Committee and its minions toward the Scondras campaign, many disgruntled lesbians and gays have explored the possibility of establishing alternative organizations. It is my firm conviction that it is imperative for those disappointed with the BLGPA endorsement process to work within the framework of the Alliance to achieve their aims. There is still time to effect a Scondras endorsement; abandoning the Alliance at this time would play directly into the hands of the de facto gay vault scheming to bring about the endorsement of Dennis Quilty.

Under the tireless and selfless leadership of Eric Rofes BLGPA has achieved much in its short lifespan, particularly in awakening the political consciousness (and consciences) of many heretofore apathetic and/or apolitical lesbians and gays. There is much more that a *true Alliance* of men and women of good conscience can do in the future to enhance the lives of every one of us. The endorsement of political candidates is but one area (and perhaps in the long run not the most important area) in which BLGPA can bring to bear the political and economic clout of an emerging Lesbian and gay subculture in Boston.

And yet the touchstone of the Alliance's claim to represent the best interests of the entire gay community must be the stand it takes in the Eight District councilmanic race. If it fails to endorse the candidacy of David Scondras, this highly qualified gay man, we all will be the losers. Surely we will have missed a chance to change the history of this city. We will once again prove ourselves petty and weak, cowardly and disunited, and unworthy to claim the title "Gay and Proud."

Sincerely,
William L. Hutchinson
Dorchester, MA



John Feldman (left), Stephen Hunt (standing) and Terry Gorman of the Lambda Resource Center for the Blind

By Warren Bhunenfeld

"One problem that we blind people have to face is that we are inundated from the very beginning of our lives with heavy amounts of [traditional] religious material from all denominations. This undoubtedly generates some amount of conservatism in the blind community."

Terry Gorman, Lambda Resource Center for the Blind

On a cold and rainy late spring afternoon while visiting Boston from their homes in Chicago, Terry Gorman and John Feldman

came into Cambridge to be interviewed about an organization of which they are a part — The Lambda Resource Center (LRC) for the Blind. Working full-time jobs during the day and doing volunteer work at LRC nights and weekends, they were taking a well-deserved vacation visiting various points between Chicago and New York — Boston being one such stop — staying at local LRC subscribers' homes. The third LRC staff member, Stephen Hunt, was unable to join them in their

travels.

Armed with his white cane and a briefcase containing a specially modified four-track tape recorder, cassette tapes and a large old fashioned microphone that could turn on the vainest of recording stars, Terry was well prepared. John, carrying nothing but an umbrella and a subway token for his return trip to Boston, where he was staying, came to the interview also ready to share his story.

Background

It is estimated that there are

Lambda Resource

about 500,000 blind people in the United States, ranging from the condition of legal blindness (no better than 20/200 visual acuity) to total blindness. If the Alfred Kinsey percentages are correct, this means that there are approximately 50,000 blind gay men and lesbians in this country.

As most of us gay men and lesbians are aware, coming to terms with who we are, with our sexuality, and having the ability to comfortably carry this awareness into our daily lives can be a long and difficult process, one which is nearly impossible to achieve in isolation. We need to be supported by other people and groups who have traveled the road before us. We also need to have open access to positive informational materials which support us while telling our stories, showing us that in no way are we alone or unique. Locating such resources often requires a great deal of personal independence and personal privacy, two very important conditions which many disabled people do not have. In the case of people with visual disabilities, this is particularly true. Many times they can only get those materials which are provided by governmental agencies or special schools. If they desire other types of materials, they are supplied with sighted readers (many times supplied by these same agencies) or they must pay readers on their own for such services.

There are some governmental and private agencies around the country which tape traditional literature and non-fictional

materials and make it available for people who have difficulty reading print; however, much of this is limited in scope and depth.

John Feldman: "You can get all the Zane Gray books you like from the Library of Congress recording service, or the Louis L'Amour or the Perry Mason Erle Stanley Gardner books. But alternative literature (gay literature, lesbian literature, feminist literature, socialist and Marxist literature) is very difficult to obtain."

If somehow a visually disabled person does obtain some printed alternative literature or simply wants a personal letter to be read, the issue of privacy enters when a sighted reader is used. Think back to the time when you were living at home with your family or when you were living with roommates who weren't yet aware of your emerging sexual preference. Imagine how you would feel (or did actually feel) if they discovered your underwear in the left back corner of the lowest drawer of your dresser. Many visually disabled people must often suffer this humiliation if they want private materials read to them. For this reason, many make a conscious decision to deny themselves access to such materials, which in turn delays or even prevents them from realizing their true emotional and sexual potential.

A New Movement

This condition brings us to the point of looking at a phenomenon which has far reaching implications for people with visual disabilities.

ATTENTION!! ALL CLASSIFIED ADVERTISERS

As of Volume 11, Number 1, the classified rates go up. Any ads received with incorrect payments will be returned, so it is to your advantage to pay at the new rates. (See ad form.) This was a necessary increase. We hope it will not pinch anyone too seriously. Thank you for your patience and cooperation ... and your money!!

Patronize
our
Advertisers

REAL PAPER AWARDS

Best Auto Mechanic

J&S Automotive
277 Northampton Street
Boston

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ities. A "new movement" of sorts is stepping in to fill the void by tackling the important issues of isolation, lack of access to information and lack of privacy which people with visual limitations have faced for as long as such limitations have existed. Terry and John spoke of a number of groups which are serving as the vanguard of this movement. There is their group, the Lambda Resource Center for the Blind in Chicago; there is Gay Taping for the Blind in New York, which has available approximately 18 recorded books on gay male themes; there is the Womyn's Braille Press in Minneapolis, which distributes recorded and brailled feminist literature, including about 50 books, a newsletter, and taped editions of three women's magazines (*Sinister Wisdom*, *off our backs*, and *Womanspirit*); editions are taped by volunteers from the three journals and then distributed by The Womyn's Braille Press. There is also a group called Freedom From Religion operating out of Wisconsin which tapes and distributes what it calls "free thinking" literature, beginning with the writings of Thomas Paine and continuing to thinkers of more recent times, making an atheist viewpoint available to blind people. (It is interesting to note that sighted people were involved in the formation and now in the production and distribution for this group.) The movement is rounded out by Our Right To Know Braille Press of Detroit which is an organization

that provides taped socialist materials and their taped magazine, *News and Letters*.

The Lambda Resource Center for the Blind: History

Having virtually nothing more than some basic recording machines and a small apartment to work out of, Terry Gorman and his sighted friend Stephen Hunt added an unlimited amount of energy and hope to found LRC for the Blind back in October 1979.

Terry has been blind since birth because of a condition known as retrolental fibroplasia, a fancy medical term for the destruction of the retina caused by being given too much oxygen while in an incubator following premature birth. Having grown up in schools where most of his brailled and recorded reading materials were chosen for him, he knew the frustration of not having a choice in his own early education. This situation continued throughout his school career and into his coming out years.

Then while living in Milwaukee in the early '70s, Terry discovered a gay radio program which was produced by the Gay People's Union and broadcast on a University of Wisconsin station. At around this time, he had his first sexual experience with another man, which, he said, "served as a catalyst for my coming out since I got up the courage to contact the people who ran the radio show."

With support from other gay people, Terry was one of the lucky

ones — he was able to come out as an open and proud gay man and he resolved that he would do what he could to make the process a little easier for others who faced what he did.

The original purpose of the new center, which is still its purpose today, was, in Terry's words, "to structure and record a library of books and a magazine that would give a selection of articles from various gay and lesbian newspapers; to refer people to other organizations and individuals who could provide services in their local communities; and to serve as a confidential source of information to people who primarily are print-handicapped." (He defines "print-handicapped" as those who are legally to totally blind, people who are physically disabled and are unable to hold a book or turn pages, and those who have learning disabilities and have difficulty reading.)

A few other members joined the LRC in the fall of 1979 to set guidelines, to select which books would be recorded and to advertise for volunteer readers. Then in March 1980, LRC decided to become affiliated with Gay Horizons, an umbrella organization serving the greater Chicago lesbian and gay community. Other groups under the auspices of Gay Horizons are the Gay and Lesbian Switchboard, a Gay Parents group, a peer counseling service, a gay and lesbian youth group, and others. LRC benefitted from Gay Horizons' experience and was then

placed under their non-profit tax status.

The Center began to make a small number of recorded books available in December 1980 using the duplicating facilities of another agency. One of the first such books was *The Joy of Gay Sex* by Silverstein and White. Soon after followed *The Joy of Lesbian Sex* by Sisley and Harris.

There already existed a bibliography prepared by Barbara Gittings of the Gay Task Force of the American Library Association which featured books that were recorded by agencies serving blind people in the United States. It was first produced in 1976 and later, updated. This bibliography included approximately 100 titles which were of interest to print-handicapped gay men and lesbians in what is called "Special Formats": available in braille, cassette tape or "talking book" disks. However, the bibliography itself was only available in print. With permission from the Gay Task Force, LRC recorded and began to distribute this bibliography in March 1981.

One or two months later, John Feldman, a sighted volunteer, joined the Center just in time to help with a major fund-raising campaign in June 1981 which was designed to free them from having to rely on another agency's recording and duplicating equipment. Because of the success of this campaign, they were able to purchase a four-track cassette duplicator which enabled them to re-

produce books at high speed. The Center was then off the ground and began to function as a viable organization.

The Quarterly

In keeping with their stated intention of providing a recorded "magazine that would give a selection of articles from various gay and lesbian newspapers," they released Volume I, Number I of *The LRC for the Blind Quarterly* in July 1981. Prior to this time, people with print handicaps could not easily come in contact with national and local journals and magazines related to lesbian and gay concerns. As they received permission from the publishers of the books they recorded, the LRC staff similarly requested and received permission from the copyright holders of *Gay Community News* of Boston, *The Body Politic* of Toronto, *The Advocate* of California, Chicago's *Gay Life*, and others to use materials in their recorded magazine. (They also recently received permission from *Gay News* of London, but unfortunately that publication has since suspended operation before any materials were used.)

Since all materials are recorded on four-track cassettes to be played on special tape players which are capable of playing at a low speed (15/16 inches per second), this first issue provided six hours and fifteen minutes of articles ranging from news shorts and longer news stories to full-

Continued on page 16

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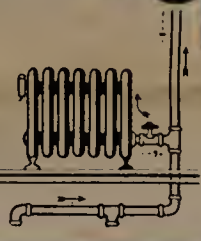
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Larry DiCara

The following interview with Larry DiCara took place on February 18, 1983.

Larry Goldsmith: I looked at some old interviews with political candidates before coming over here, including one I did with you a few months ago, and it seemed to me that there hasn't been much change over the years in the kinds of questions the lesbian and gay community asks the candidates. Do you see much change in our issues?

Larry DiCara: Regretfully, issues of access and crime are probably the top two today like they were four or six years ago. There may be others, but those come to mind.

LG: And also questions of gay rights legislation...

LD: Yes, that's what I meant by access. Certainly Kevin [White], by appointing a gay liaison — I don't use words like 'liaison' very often because I'm not sure how to pronounce them — that is a step forward... The real challenge I think is not to have one person be a liaison, although there's nothing wrong with that and it's certainly a position it would make a good deal of sense to continue, but to have people in city government who without regard to sexual preference would have positions of responsibility. There are scores if not hundreds of people who come to mind in this city who would qualify and who fit in that category. ... There's a real difference between people being appointees and people having real statutory power. If you are aide to the mayor for whatever cause or reason it might be, the gay liaison or the liaison on women's issues or what have you, everything that you have is delegated to you. If they want to cut you off, you can be cut off like that. If you're a department head, you have power, power that is given by statute.

LG: A lot of people are looking at the potential candidates for mayor right now, and we're seeing a lot of candidates who would answer the standard set of questions the right way: Yes, they would appoint a liaison; yes, they

"I think that based upon ten years of experience in the council, and based upon five times of being elected, based upon a very high visibility citywide, that number one, I can win... and that number two, without a doubt, that I can be mayor, that I can govern."

would sign an executive order barring discrimination; yes they would support a city ordinance; yes, they will appoint people to committees and commissions; and Kevin White has in fact done all of that with perhaps the exception of pushing for an ordinance. People are wondering how they are going to differentiate between those candidates who answer positively.

LD: The real question is, of all of us running, and even for all of us running who might be right on specific issues, which one of us can really be mayor? Which one of us can walk in the black neighborhoods and have black people go to his house too? Which one of us can understand that there's a big difference between Puerto Rican people, Cuban people and Colombians, rather than thinking that everyone with a Spanish surname is the same? Which one of us is going to understand that this is a very diverse city, a very small city, a small city geographically, and what we have is different kinds of people, and you're sometimes going to have to say no as well as saying yes. I think campaigning presents some really wonderful opportunities for candidates to — I think "buy off" is really the wrong word, the word "placate" is too mild, but there must be something in

Who Gets the Gay Votes

By Larry Goldsmith

An article in these pages some weeks ago (Vol. 10, No. 45) described how the advent of district representation in Boston city elections has presented lesbian and gay voters with a classic political conundrum. Running for city council in the heavily gay District 8 are four candidates. We have three liberal "friends" professing support for lesbian and gay rights and actively seeking to exploit the relatively new phenomenon called The Gay Vote. And we have an experienced, progressive gay man in the running. Put most simply, the conundrum amounts to a question the lesbian and gay minority in the city must ask itself: Shall we elect one of ourselves or one of our friends?

The situation is not new. Lesbians and gay men have often had to face these considerations when contemplating their participation in straight liberal politics in the past. District representation has made the problem more immediate this year by providing us with a district in which the election of a gay councillor is a real possibility. But there is a similar choice facing lesbians and gay men in the citywide race for mayor.

A number of candidates, including Dennis Kearney, Robert Kiley, Eloise Linger and even Ray Flynn and David Finnegan, have professed support for lesbian and gay rights. But out of the seven who showed up at a May 25 candidates' night sponsored by the Boston Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance (BL/GPA), only two — Larry DiCara and Mel King — earned substantial numbers of votes. And in some respects, the arguments offered for DiCara and King resemble those advanced in favor of District 8 candidates Dennis Quilty and David Scordas.

Larry DiCara was first elected to the Boston City Council in 1971 at the age of 22, not long after graduating from Harvard. DiCara served on the council for ten years (including one year as council president) until he chose in 1981 not to run again. Interviewers always seem to point out that DiCara is witty, intelligent and never forgets a name. DiCara is a quintessential liberal who plays politics well; he answers questions about lesbian and gay issues with the anecdotal ease of a man who has clearly done some homework. While on the council, DiCara maintained close contact with the late *GCN* reporter David Brill and former mayoral liaison Robin MacCormack, monitoring issues with the city licensing board and the police department.

DiCara is the only candidate besides Mel King who has written a position paper on lesbian and gay issues; the paper calls for gay rights legislation, increased lesbian and gay access to and participation in Boston city government, increased federal funding for research to combat AIDS, and improved relations with the police department. "The police department should spend less time investigating The Loft," DiCara says, "and more time protecting citizens of our community."

between, where all of a sudden people emerge with new ideologies to satisfy different groups. And I can say in all candor that over the years I've alienated some people, I've alienated some people because of my support for gay rights, and I'm going back to '75, '76, '77... I will not get support from people who are active in the South Boston Information Center, I'm mighty sure of that... I think the real strength of a person running for mayor is not his or her ability to say to whatever interest group happens to be asking the question exactly what they want to hear, but rather, to tell it like it is; time and time again. And I think that based upon ten years of experience in the council, and based upon five times of being elected, based upon a very high visibility citywide, that number one, I can win, that I can beat Kevin White, and that number two, without a doubt, that I can be mayor, that I can govern. There'll be no real spring training for me, and that's important.

LG: Would you summarize your position on abortion?

LD: Personally I'm opposed to abortion. That's the way I've been taught, and were I to have power over the world as dictator, I suppose that's what I'd say. But we don't have a dictatorship, we have a democracy. I think the constitutional amendment which has been fought over in the Congress for so many years is bad government. I think trying to impose one's moral attitudes upon others is not healthy for a democracy... I happen to not like video games; to me they are offensive, but I also understand that that is not the majority opinion. Which is by no means to suggest that video games and human life are alike, or even close. There is a place where you draw the line, and I don't really think that we should be imposing our moral thoughts upon other people...

I would expect that abortion will not become an issue in the campaign, but then capital punishment became an issue in the mayor's race in New York in 1977 or whenever it was. These things do happen. It is a very difficult issue for any Catholic, and an even more difficult issue for a Catholic male who is not married, because the likelihood of having a direct relationship [to the issue] is very, very limited.

LG: What is the likelihood that the city council will pass a gay rights ordinance in the near future, and how do you think that should be brought about?

LD: I did discuss with David [Brill] back many years ago putting something before the council. And in all honesty, we looked at the head count, and figured we'd get clobbered in losing 8 to 1, 7 to 2, or 6 to 3. It was likely to be worse than not fighting the battle at all, assuming that executive orders can do certain things. As mayor, I would have no difficulties one, filing an ordinance, and two, fighting

DiCara put substantial effort into obtaining the BL/GPA endorsement, and the effort paid off. The candidate gave winning performances at a campaign-sponsored reception at the Cafe Calypso and at the BL/GPA candidates' night, dropping the names of Brill and MacCormack, and quoting gay author Edmund White. Mark Johnston, a gay man who is DiCara's press secretary, did advance work, promoting and introducing his candidate and procuring votes at the endorsement meeting.

One question we couldn't help asking DiCara was why, if he supported gay rights legislation, did he never introduce an ordinance during his ten years on the council? DiCara's unabashed answer says a lot about his particular brand of liberal politics. The city council, he says, would have trounced such a proposal, much as it vetoed a proposed resolution by DiCara and former councillor Rosemarie Sansone in favor of the Equal Rights Amendment. DiCara says he consulted with Brill and MacCormack and concluded that to introduce the ordinance would be a setback for the lesbian and gay community, not to mention a personal defeat. "I don't like to lose anything," DiCara explains, "especially when it's something I expect to win."

DiCara's statement brings to mind an often-heard exhortation from Mel King to "ask for what you want, not what you're told you can get." King, who served as a state representative from 1973 to 1982, ran a strong but unsuccessful campaign for mayor the last time around, in 1979. King finished third in that race, missing the runoff by 15,536 votes.

When King talks about the issues in the city of Boston, he sounds like no other candidate. He speaks freely of the racism, sexism and homophobia which divide the city and he stresses the connections between these forms of oppression. King has issued a number of detailed position papers on various topics, including one on gay issues which calls for the establishment of a city commission on gay and lesbian issues, the inclusion of sexual preference-related issues in all city training programs, and the hiring of lesbians and gay men at all levels of city government. A position paper on women's issues notes that "Mel King has consistently supported reproductive rights — opposed the Doyle-Flynn bill which prohibits any woman working under state benefits from having coverage for abortion."

As a state legislator, King sponsored and voted consistently for gay rights bills and appeared at gay pride marches and a 1980 march in the Fenway to protest the murder of a gay man in the Fens. King says he has supported lesbian and gay issues since the 1960s and emphasizes that although he is not gay, he regards his oppression as a black man to be connected with the oppression of lesbians and gay men. "I am personally identified in this struggle," he explains, noting that his commitment exists independently of his campaign.

for its passage, but it's a battle that the mayor could not do alone. You'd have to have a lot of help. It's not easy to put laws on the books. In this city, we may pass 20 ordinances a year. It's not something you do every week.

LG: But one advantage of filing the bill, even though you knew you were going to lose, would be to make it all that much clearer who's going to support it and who isn't.

"I did discuss with David [Brill] back many years ago putting [a gay rights ordinance] before the council. And in all honesty, we looked at the head count, and figured we'd get clobbered... It was likely to be worse than not fighting the battle at all, assuming that executive orders can do certain things."

LD: Right. And certainly calling for a rollecall or something like that, that's another school [of thought]. And I'm guessing the city council today has a much better shot at getting 6 to 3. We lost a vote for the ERA, believe it or not, at one point. Rosemarie Sansone and I, I think, we lost a vote for a resolution to support the ERA. And we regretted it. I remember it very well, because I don't like to lose anything, especially when it's something that I expect to win.

"As mayor, I would have no difficulties one, filing an ordinance, and two, fighting for its passage, but it's a battle that the mayor could not do alone."

LG: One big issue in Boston is the relation between the police department and the gay community. One thing that's been talked about is the possibility of having openly gay officers or finding a liaison for the police department itself. Do you have any thoughts about how things might improve?

LD: First of all, I think the police department is in need of an awful lot of house cleaning. It is very top heavy. A lot

s for Mayor of Boston?

As the only black candidate in a field of eight, King faces a particular challenge in Boston, widely considered one of the most racist cities in the country. Unlike in Chicago, where a large proportion of black voters combined forces with liberals to elect Harold Washington last spring, only 17 percent of those eligible to vote in Boston are black. King's chances for making the runoff hinge in part on his ability to overcome a commonly held perception although he is the best candidate, he isn't "electable." Early in the campaign, before Kevin White's dramatic exit from the race, many observers thought the September 27 preliminary election would produce a face-off between King and White. The thought was that a significant fraction of voters were disgusted with Kevin White but fatalistically certain that the incumbent would win re-election. If Kevin White would win no matter how they voted, they might as well vote their hearts and vote for King.

Now, however, with White out of the race, many of those who would have voted for King — including many of those who feel King is the best candidate — are looking for a compromise between a candidate who represents them best and one who professes some support for their interests and is, in the parlance, "electable." "Electable," says King, in this instance seems to be synonymous with "white," and he suggests that those who vote along these lines play into racism.

One other "electable" candidate receiving much of the support one might expect to find in the King camp is city councillor Ray Flynn. Flynn, who earned a reputation early on as an outspoken opponent of busing, co-author of the Doyle-Flynn anti-abortion bill and a reliable "no" vote on statewide gay rights legislation during his tenure as a state representative, has metamorphosed into a self-described "populist" candidate, an advocate for tenants, the poor and older people. Flynn has already earned three liberal-to-progressive endorsements — Local 26 of the Hotel, Restaurant, Institutional Employees and Bartenders Union, the Massachusetts Tenants' Organization and the monthly Boston *Observer* — and he has picked up considerable backing from supporters of Allston-Brighton State Representative Tom Gallagher. Flynn now says he'll support gay rights, but few lesbians and gay men at the BL/GPA candidates' night seemed impressed, and Flynn picked up only a handful of endorsement votes.

Among those who argue that Mel King is unelectable is Melvin Miller, publisher of the Bay State *Banner*, a moderate-to-conservative Boston black weekly. Miller, who is supporting David Finnegan, argued in a front-page editorial in the June 2 *Banner* that without the support of a larger black electorate (and the Democratic National Party, which strongly supported Harold Washington in Chicago's partisan mayoral campaign), King cannot win. Miller concluded that "the strategy for this election should be to back an electable candidate who is committed to the goal of fully

involving blacks in municipal government."

A similar decision appears to have been made by the members of BL/GPA who voted to endorse Larry DiCara. The gradual displacement of votes from King to DiCara in successive ballots seems to indicate the developing realization by King supporters that DiCara was within reach of the required two-thirds majority. The remaining King supporters were shocked that BL/GPA could fail to endorse a man they saw as an unimpeachable advocate for lesbians and gay men. And sure enough, a number of BL/GPA members privately expressed the feeling that while Larry DiCara was not as good a choice as Mel King, DiCara stood a better chance of being elected. If elected, of course, DiCara would be indebted to BL/GPA for its endorsement and financial support; it would be wiser, they said, for BL/GPA to bet on a potential winner.

A number of gay former King supporters have switched their allegiances based on a set of at least three concrete issues. King discusses one of these, his decision not to endorse former state senator Bill Owens in 1982, in the accompanying interview. Of a second issue, King's support for the proposed development of Roxbury Community College on a site that would displace the residents of several houses, King says he never supported displacing people to build the college. But, he adds, "[I said] that I could not be sympathetic to people who had moved in after the [development site] had been designated."

In an interview in *Bay Windows*, responding to criticism on the third issue, his support for the government of Cuba "without questioning their anti-gay policies," King retorted: "And I've been quite vocal about my support of gay people without raising questions about a lot of gay racism. . . . I don't not support gays because a lot of them are racist, and I don't not support a change in Cuba because some of them are homophobic."

King admits he's making demands on lesbians and gay men to help further his vision for the city of Boston. It's possible that some BL/GPA members endorsed DiCara as an act of self-protection, as an attempt at preserving those few privileges they have been able to gain in an oppressive world. But King takes a broader view of the city and its problems; he won't pander exclusively to the wishes of the gay community without considering how those wishes affect other oppressed groups in the city. A gay man at a recent house party asked King how he expected to win the support of gay "gentry" in the South End while preaching leftist economic views. King paused a moment, then said he hoped those gay people took a longer view and realized that what benefits poor people in Boston ultimately benefits everyone. Or, as he said at his campaign kickoff, "We may have come to Boston on different ships, but we're all in the same boat now."

of those at the top positions in the department are people who are not good managers. I think that we could do a significant reorganization of the police department with the intent being to have in positions of power people who are there because they are responsible rather than because they are political operatives, which I'm led to believe by people much more knowledgeable than I is the case. . . . Joe Jordan is an old friend, he's a good guy, but I'm not so sure if Joe's a modern enough guy. He's a perfect police commissioner for Kevin White at this point in his life, but I don't know really if I would want a police commissioner like that.

LG: Brian McNaught has announced that the mayor's office is going to be doing a study of the needs of the lesbian and gay community. Have you heard about this?

LD: I have not. It doesn't surprise me. Every fourth year we have studies done. We have the quadrennial burst of activity. In a way, it's good that we have elections in a free society because they make for a lot of police overtime; there will be more policemen on horseback over the next eight or nine months in Boston than probably anywhere in the wild west. Streets will be cleaned. The government becomes very responsible for a while. I tend to think that the government should be responsible more often than once every fourth year. I also happen to think that accessibility should not be an occasional occurrence.

Mel King

The following interview with Mel King took place on April 29, 1983.

Larry Goldsmith: Why are you running for mayor?

Mel King: I could give a number of reasons. One major one is that I'm really tired of going places around this country and having people say "What's wrong with people in Boston? How come you're not dealing with the issues of racism and oppression? How come you're not dealing with the issues of violence? How come the place is so corrupt?" And I want to be involved in a city where I can go anywhere and hold my head up high, not have to bow to the kind of imagery that we have here. I'm running for mayor because there are unmet needs here in the city and I believe that my record, over 30 years of involvement in working to meet people's needs, qualifies me to assume this position. I have at another level paid whatever dues there are that take you from working directly on the streets to running an organization to being a legislator and getting legislation passed, to my work as the director of the Community Fellows Program and an adjunct professor at the Massachusetts Institute of

Technology. [I have] put together a book [*Chain of Change*, South End Press, 1981] which lays out some of my thoughts and understanding of what life is like in this city. I think I'm qualified and I have the record and I believe it's time for me to share those experiences in a much more organized and systematic way for a population that's larger than the district which I represented.

"I'm not going to send the gay liaison to be on the podium to speak to the issues; I'll be there myself. I was there when it wasn't fashionable. . . . I'm going to be there whether I'm mayor or not, because it's a piece of what I believe. I am personally identified in this struggle."

LG: The lesbian and gay community in Boston has been trying especially hard lately to exert its influence as a political force. What do you see as some of the special needs of the community?

MK: I start with the belief that you have to end oppression at all levels, and that to allow any group of individuals to be oppressed and not work against it is to set yourself up for that kind of oppression. And so when one looks at my record, I have been involved in dealing with the issues that gay and lesbian people have been dealing with from the beginning.

I guess what I'm trying to get to is that I approach this from a standpoint of oppression and whatever the issues — of homophobia, discrimination, violence — I am an advocate for the elimination of those conditions, those laws, those practices which deny people who are gay and lesbian their full rights to participation in society.

You asked what are the special needs. Laws, ordinances and whatnot which penalize people who discriminate against or deny access to people because of their sexual preference. Training for police in dealing with these issues. I was asked the question the other night whether I would have a liaison, and I said yes. The second question was what would you do with the police and their behavior, when they're beating up on people and harassing gay men and lesbians. The answer is that I'm not going to tolerate their harassing or beating up on anybody and there's not going to be any selective approach to this.

I think I am the only candidate who has taken a platform at a gay rally or meeting, and I have done it at lots of them,



Susan Fleischmann

to lend whatever stature I had as a representative or a person to the educational process. I will stand here and say that I'm not going to send the gay liaison to be on the podium to speak to the issues; I'll be there myself. I was there when it wasn't fashionable. . . . I was there when there was a perception that there wasn't any power, I was there when people were being dumped on, and I'm going to be there whether I'm mayor or not, because it's a piece of what I believe. I am personally identified in this struggle.

"I supported Elaine Noble. I could have supported somebody else who had a better chance because they were straight, but we supported her because we went for who we wanted and not what the people said we could have."

A man in my campaign last time said "What is this, your involvement with people who are gay?" He said "I like your policies, but I can't deal with *them* and I said "Well, you can't work on this campaign." And he looked at me and he began to understand that I wasn't going to back off.

I make some demands on people who are gay and lesbian. They have got to join the struggles against the oppression of other people, the elderly, people of color, women. All the issues, so that gay men need to join in women's struggles as well. We all have to join in other struggles and I want to work to get that kind of climate developed in the city.

LG: One way that has been suggested to do that is to hire openly gay people in the city government. . . .

MK: I've done that.

LG: . . . in the schools. . . .

MK: I've done that in all levels of my work, including the members of the Community Fellows Program at MIT and we'll open up all parts of city government in employment. I'm talking about a non-discriminatory practice, and I'm talking about all levels. This year we're talking about city hall. The answer is yes. I'm just trying to tell you what my record is.

I'm telling you that I have the best record of anybody who is running for office, including the mayor, in terms of working on all the issues that you're talking about. Personal identification. Speaking out for and having hired people since 1963 when I ran the Youth Opportunity Center at 48 Rutland Street, long before anybody would have any identification [with lesbians or gay men] and ever since.

For some reason, there is a group of folk who ignore that record and who are looking at other candidates now, because there are white candidates who are acceptable for

"It distresses me to see that we're in a situation where there would be no question if I were white, who the folk would be supporting. . . . And their failure to join my campaign is a way of saying that they are supporting racism."

some of their positions and ostensibly because they think that they have a better chance because they're white. I supported Elaine Noble. I could have supported somebody else who had a better chance because they were straight, but we supported her because we went for who we wanted and not what the people said we could have.

It distresses me to see that we're in a situation where there would be no question if I were white, who the folk would be

Continued on page 15

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Music A Warm Reception For a Gay Chorale

By Nancy A.F. Langer

The Stonewall Chorale celebrated gay pride on Thursday, June 23 in Greenwich Village with a festival of music as diverse as Middle English ballads, madrigals from Shakespeare, and a 1982 gay choral piece. The group performed to a hot but enthusiastic crowd of 300 in the Church of St. Joseph.

The highlight of the evening was the performance of William Bergsma's moving and mystical *Wishes, Wonders, Portents, and Charms*, an extended three movement work for chorus, soloists and four instruments. Music director Timothy Vernon blended voices to produce an eerie and haunting effect that moved the audience to tears, thunderous applause and talk of AIDs at intermission. The piece used nursery rhymes dating from the bubonic plague that killed thousands of Europeans in the Middle Ages.

Said its composer, "Part I sets a series of rather sinister nursery rhymes, Part II uses Lucy Ashford's mad song from Sir Walter Scott's *The Bride of Lammermoor* to introduce a verse after e.e. cummings on love, agitated lines from Walt Whitman about music and a traumatic memory of the Cornell Medical Questionnaire for Males. Part III, a free passage with words



The Stonewall Chorale

from Herman Melville and Ecclesiastes, considers images of death."

But later in the evening, the performance of Calvin Hampton's *Live or Die: A Ceremony of Healing* was less interesting musically. The piece was commissioned by The Gay and Lesbian Inter-Religious Coalition for the occasion of A Day of Remembrance for Lesbian and Gay Holocaust Victims and Other Lesbian and Gay Martyrs. Its theme, survival, was echoed in lyrics and spoken dramatic sections from lesbian and gay poetry. But its conception was overly

mechanical and even this professional choral group could not give it the emotional appeal the music itself lacked.

The Stonewall Chorale was formed in 1979 by a group of singers who wanted to perform Renaissance music. Since then the Chorale's repertoire has expanded to include pieces from the Baroque and Romantic as well as contemporary periods. It is one of the few gay choruses in the country to include both women and men and to seek out truly innovative works.

Queerbeat A Captivating Beat

By Urvashi Vaid

BAM BAM is one of the most musically interesting bands to surface on the Boston rock scene (see box Queerbeat's pick of Boston's Top Groups). With a name like BAM BAM, one would expect an emphasis on rhythm. Indeed, BAM BAM's sound is 1980s funk-rock (the band describes it as "post-punk funk"), with politically conscious lyrics, and a lovely lack of pretension.

Using funk as a foundation, the band plays with different styles (reggae, jazz, pop) to produce a strikingly original sound. BAM BAM has the funkiest (and best) bass player I've seen in Boston (Scott Gagnon); a solid drummer with great timing (Rick Barry); an imaginative percussionist (Ken Winokur) who plays everything from bed pans to 2x4s; a guitar and casio player with a minimalist style (Rory MacPherson); and a terse lead guitarist and singer (John Hill).

The best thing about BAM BAM, apart from their infectious beat, is that they define their music as political. John Hill, who writes the band's lyrics, notes that he writes specifically to spur his audience into action. "It's too late for theorizing," he commented in an interview with GCN, "It's time to put your money where your mouth is." Hill sees his lyrics as tackling both personal and social politics. "On a personal level individuals should accept responsibility for their actions and feelings. On a societal level, I write to



Ken Winokur (left) and Rory MacPherson of BAM BAM

motivate people (who have the inclination) to act."

Recently BAM BAM was one of four bands at a benefit for Performing Artists for Nuclear Disarmament Action (PANDA) (the other participating bands were FINE CHINA, TWISTER, and LIMBO RACE). The band's stage presence is appealing, if unformed. The same lack of pretense that is their charm reflects a shyness BAM BAM has yet to overcome on stage. But creating an effective stage performance is something a band accomplishes only by performing, and BAM BAM is a skilled group of musicians well on their way. They are worth the trip out!!

QUEERBEAT'S PICK OF BOSTON'S BEST BANDS (in alphabetical order)

Bam Bam
Children of Paradise
Dangerous Birds
Dogmatics
Empty Rituals
Fine China
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The Axes
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The Kozmetix
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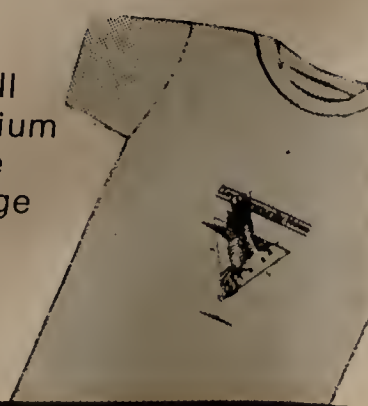
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AIDS Resource List

AIDS Action Committee — 16 Haviland Street, Boston, MA 02115, 267-7573
Education and support group for people with AIDS, their families, lovers, friends and health care providers. Provides speakers, conducts forums, rap groups, hospice-trained volunteers, hotline information and referrals. Associated with the Fenway Community Health Center.

AIDS Action Line — 536-7733
AIDS Action Committee service, information, referrals and befriending about AIDS. Trained volunteers.

AIDS Benefit Review Committee — (267-7573) or (725-4849)
Joint subcommittee of Mayor's Committee on AIDS and AIDS Action Committee to coordinate AIDS fundraisers, monitor process and review results. All groups of individuals planning AIDS fundraisers are encouraged to coordinate their efforts with the subcommittee.

AIDS Hotline — (424-5916)
The Community Infectious Disease Epidemiology Program of the City of Boston.

Staff of public health nurses answer questions about AIDS, make referrals. Collects city-wide data from hospitals on AIDS cases, forwards data to Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, officially determines number of cases probable and under investigation.

Fenway Community Health Center — 16 Haviland Street, Boston, MA 02115 (267-7573)
Hotline information, medical work-ups, diagnosis, referrals, counseling. A gay sensitive health care facility. Participates in research efforts.

Gay and Lesbian Counseling Services — 80 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02116 (542-5188)
Noon to 1:00 pm drop-in support group every Monday for people dealing with AIDS anxiety. One-on-one counseling for AIDS anxiety also available.

Gay and Lesbian Hotline — 6:00 pm to midnight, M-F (426-9371)
Provides information on AIDS, makes referrals. Associated with Gay and Lesbian Counseling Services.

Haitian Committee on AIDS in

Massachusetts — 117 Harvard Street, Dorchester, MA 02124 (436-2808)
Provides information, referrals, support and emergency assistance to Haitians with AIDS and their families.

Mayor's Committee on AIDS — Room 608, Boston City Hall, Boston, MA 02201 (725-4849)
Coordinates efforts of federal, state, and city health agencies, produces educational material, collects data on cases, reviews policy. Umbrella organization. Media outlet. Conducts forums and provides speakers.

Mayor's Liaison to the Gay and Lesbian Community — Room 608, Boston City Hall, Boston, MA 02201 (725-4849)
Coordinates Mayor's Committee on AIDS, distributes AIDS brochures, media contact, referrals.

National Gay Task Force Hotline — (1-800-221-7044)
Toll free national hotline run by NGTF to provide information and referrals.

Omega Hospice and Bereavement Program — 270 Washington Street, Somerville, MA 02143 (776-6369)

Ongoing free support group for gay men and lesbians dealing with life-threatening illness. 7:30 pm the second and fourth Wednesday of the month.

Springfield Downtown Ministry /Co.ncil of Churches — 293 Bridge Street Room 205,

Springfield, MA 01103-1402 (737-4125)
Counseling and referrals.

Ward, Rizzo, and Lund — 2 Park Square, Suite 300, Boston, MA 02116 (426-2020)
Provides free wills and power of attorney papers to AIDS patients.

Solidarity with Nicaragua

Lesbians and gay men are playing an increasingly prominent role in the growing movement in opposition to U.S. Central American policy. And Central American revolutionary movements have been mindful of this support, offering their solidarity with the lesbian/gay movement. Last year's San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom rally heard a speech by Arnolando Ramos of El Salvador's FDR-FMLN, and this year a gay Nicaraguan, Roberto Gurdian, addressed the crowd.

July 19 is the fourth anniversary of the overthrow of U.S.-backed Nicaraguan dictator Anastasio Somoza by popular forces led by the Sandinistas. Today the C.I.A. is waging a not-so-covert war in Nicaragua, heavily backing former members of Somoza's National Guard and the Honduran military in an attempt to crush the popular government.

Various events and celebrations are planned around the country to commemorate the Nicaraguan revolution and to educate people about growing U.S. involvement in Central America. Two events are scheduled in the Boston area: at 8 PM on Friday, **July 22**, the Central American Solidarity Association (CASA) will present a program on the current situation in Nicaragua, with special emphasis on the role of women, at the First Congregational Church, 11 Garden St., Cambridge; on Saturday, **July 23**, CASA will celebrate the 4th

Anniversary of the Nicaraguan Revolution. Call 492-8699 for more information on the anniversary celebration. Other events include: a march in New York City from Herald Square to Union Square starting at noon on **July 16**. A cultural performance in Washington D.C. on **July 19**, featuring the leading Nicaraguan musical ensemble, El Pancasan. And a day-long festival in Northampton, Mass. on **July 23**.

For more information call New York (212) 741-0633, Washington D.C. (202) 223-2328, or your local solidarity group.

Conferences

Summer is fully warmed up now and so is the get-together schedule for all kinds of different groups. Here are some events to make note of:

A Call to Gay Brothers has been issued by the **Stonewater Circle** of San Diego, "Kalifornia," the hosts of the last national fairy gathering, for a "**full moon gathering**" there. "Stargazers, shamans, radical faeries, anal attentives, magik queer men" and other like-minded faggots will be gathering July 22 to 24. Write P.O. Box 82823, San Diego, CA 92138 or gaze into your crystal ball for location and information.

Thursday, August 11 at 10 AM there will be a special presentation on **Gay and Lesbian Ostimates** and their concerns. This is part of the 21st Annual Conference of the United

Ostomy Association, to be held in Boston's Sheraton Hotel. For registration info call (617) 267-3665 between 9 and 1, Monday through Friday. Ask for Ted or Florence.

The Eight National **Conference on Men & Masculinity**, to be held in Ann Arbor, Michigan, August 11 to 15, will also be the founding conference of the **National Men's Organization**. This year's theme will be "Men Cooperating for A Change." For information/registration write or call The Ann Arbor Planners, P.O. Box 8113, Ann Arbor MI 48107, (313) 665-4926.

"Our Purpose, Our Organization, Our Pride" is the theme for the 1983 convention of the International Association of **Black and White Men Together**, which will be held August 16-21 in Columbus, Ohio. For information: Marc McIntosh, IABWMT Convention '83, 615 South Lazelle St., Columbus OH 43206, (614)221-2734 or the local BWMT chapter.

The Lincoln Legion of Lesbians will host the **1983 Midwest Lesbian Feminist Conference** at a camp northwest of Lincoln, Nebraska, September 2 to 4. Registration is required by August 21. Write: MLFC, Box 30137, Lincoln, NE 68503 or call (402) 435-7397 evenings.

Dignity, the organization for lesbian and gay Catholics, will have its sixth biennial convention in Seattle, September 2 to 5. For more information: Dignity Convention, P.O. Box 9658, Seattle, WA 98109 or call your local Dignity chapter.

<p>BOSTON-AREA GAY/LESBIAN BUSINESS GUIDE</p> <p>ACCOMMODATIONS</p> <p>OASIS GUEST HOUSE 22 Edgerly Rd., Boston, MA 02115 (617)267-2262</p> <p>WATERSHIP INN P.O.Box 918 7 Winthrop St. Provincetown, MA 02657 (617) 487-0094</p> <p>BOOKSTORES</p> <p>GLAD DAY BOOKSTORE 43 Winter St. Boston, MA 02108 (617)542-0144</p> <p>CHIROPRACTORS</p> <p>DR. EDWARD COHEN Brookline Family Chiropractic Office 1330 Beacon St. Brookline, MA 02146 (617) 734-7744</p> <p>DR. JONATHAN D. STEIN 375 Harvard St Brookline, MA 02146 (617)232-7200</p>	<p>CINEMA</p> <p>ART CINEMA 204 Tremont St., Boston, MA 02111 (617)482-4661</p> <p>NORTH STATION CINEMA 2 175 Portland St. Boston, MA. 02114 (617)227-0513</p> <p>DENTISTRY</p> <p>DR.RICHARD BANKHEAD DR. PAUL GROIPEN 1259 Hyde Park Ave. Hyde Park, MA 02136 (617) 364-5500</p> <p>JOHN C. BARNA, D.M.D. - 739 Boylston St. Boston, MA 02116 (617) 353-1500</p> <p>GYMS</p> <p>SOUTH END GYM 46 Waltham St. South End, Boston, MA (617)451-3514 and 1261 Cambridge St. Inman Sq., Cambridge, MA (as of April 1st)</p>	<p>INFORMATION/MEDIA</p> <p>XANADU GRAPHICS 143 Albany St., Cambridge, MA 02139 661-6975</p> <p>LIMOUSINE SERVICES</p> <p>WAITES ROLLS ROYCE LIMOUSINE SERVICE Christopher Waites (617) 567-0420 (305) 564-1292</p> <p>MEDICAL/COUNSELING</p> <p>TAPESTRY, Inc. 20 Sacramento St., Cambridge, MA 02138 (617)661-0248</p> <p>GAY AND LESBIAN COUNSELING SERVICE 80 Boylston St.#855, Boston, MA 02116</p> <p>FENWAY COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER 16 Haviland St., Boston, MA 02115 (617)267-7573</p> <p>JACK CEMPELLIN, M.S. ASSOCIATED COUNSELORS Salem & Copley Square (617) 745-7029</p>	<p>GENDER IDENTITY SERVICE OF NEW ENGLAND 136 Causeway St. Hudson, MA 01749 (617) 568-0680</p> <p>REAL ESTATE</p> <p>MARK THOMAS CO, LTD Mark Zimmerman Charles St. Boston, MA 02114 (617) 227-2209</p> <p>RACHAEL REALTY CO. INC. 318 Harvard St. #31 The Arcade Building Brookline, MA 02146 277-0230</p> <p>REMODELING</p> <p>T.H.E. CONTRACTORS, INC. 36 Pine St. Chelsea, MA 02150 (617) 889-4347</p> <p>TRAVEL</p> <p>FOREX TRAVEL 76 Arlington St. Boston Park Plaza 482-2900</p>	<p>WOMEN</p> <p>NEW WORDS BOOKSTORE 186 Hampshire St., Cambridge, MA 02139 (617)876-5310</p> <p>WOMENCRAFTS, INC., P.O. Box 190, 373 Commercial St., Provincetown, MA 02657</p> <p>WOMEN'S BARS</p> <p>THE MARQUEE 512 Mass Ave Cambridge, MA 02139 492-9545</p> <p>SOMEWHERE/ELSE 295 Franklin St. Boston 423-7730</p> <p>This guide provides a listing of gay/lesbian owned, staffed, or supportive businesses and services. To have your business or service listed (for only \$30.00 per year) call 426-4469.</p>
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weekly events sunday

Boston, MA — Boston Alliance of Gay and Lesbian Youth (BAGLY) drop-in center for youth 22 and under from 3:30-5pm at Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St. (Beacon Hill) Info: 497-8282. Please send all BAGLY mail to: GCN, Box 10GY, 167 Tremont St., Boston 02111.

Boston, MA — "Musically speaking" Women's music, ideas, announcements. WMBR, 88.1 FM, 1-3pm.

Boston, MA — Gay and Lesbian Physicists of New England, 2nd Sundays. Info: (617) 482-6874 or 247-5495.

Merrymount Music Society, informal meetings and concerts for gay and lesbian musicians and music lovers. Info: 266-9423.

Boston — "Boston's Other Voice," WROR, 98.5 FM, 11:30pm.

West of Boston, MA — West of Boston Lesbians. Social events on Sunday afternoons, twice a month. New members welcome. Info: 486-8848, or Dorothy 875-1108.

Cambridge, MA — Black and White Men Together of Boston meets at Paradise, 180 Mass. Ave. 2nd Sunday of each month. Info: Tom 536-3392 or Dick 247-3043.

Cambridge, MA — Overeaters Anonymous, lesbian meeting. Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave. (Harvard Sq.) 7:30pm. DOB office.

Acton, MA — Central Middlesex Social Club meets at 7:30pm. Info: 263-4882.

Framingham, MA — Tricounty Assoc. (Framingham, Milford, Franklin area) Social and support group for gay and lesbian community. Info: 376-4323 or 473-3529.

Orleans, MA — Shoreline, a social group alternative to the bars on Cape Cod, meets 2nd Sundays. Info: Box 1614, Orleans 02653.

Concord, NH — Concord Area Gay Youth. Support group for youth 16-22. Rap session and social time. Info: Ron 225-5622.

Keene, NH — Potlucks and other fun get-togethers for lesbians. 1st Sundays (2pm) and 3rd Tuesdays or Wednesdays (6pm). Info: Keene Klondykes, Box 261, Gilsum 03448.

Central VT — Central Vermont Gay Men (CVGM) meets 1st Sunday of the month for socializing, business and a meal. Info: Box 42, Barre 05641.

Northern VT/NH — League of Gays (LOGS) meets 3rd Sundays. Info: (802) 626-3618 or write: Box 703, St. Johnsbury 05819.

Orono, ME — Wilde-Stern Club. Social support group for lesbians and gay men. Informal, friendly and open meetings. Peabody Lounge, 3rd fl., Memorial Union, UMO, 7pm.

monday

Waltham, MA — Triskelion, the Brandeis Gay/Lesbian Coalition. General discussion group at 9pm. Usdan Student Ctr. Conf. Room C. Info: 647-4353, or Box 2792, Brandeis U., Waltham 02254.

Nashua, NH — Nashua Area Gays meet at 8pm. Info: Tony 424-3252, or write: Nashua Area Gays, Box 3472, Nashua 03061.

Portsmouth, NH — Seacoast Gay Men. 7pm. Info: PO Box 1394, Portsmouth 03801.

Boston — Free drop-in Support group for men concerned about AIDS. 5:30-6:30 PM at Gay and Lesbian Counseling Services, 80 Boylston St. (Corner of Boylston & Tremont Sts.). Rm. 855 Info: 542-5188.

tuesday

Boston, MA — Urania: lesbian and bisexual women's SIM support group. Safe, non-competitive space for women of all levels of experience to share political and personal aspects of our sexuality. 131 Cambridge St. (Govt. Ctr.) 7:30pm. Info: Hathor 623-7258.

Cambridge, MA — Daughters of Bilitis. Discussion and social group. Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave. (Harvard Sq.) 8pm. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Info: 661-3633.

Cambridge, MA — Lesbian SIM support group every week. 7:30pm. Info: 661-8015.

Cambridge, MA — Boston chapter, 35+ women's discussion and social group. 7:30pm. Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave. (Harvard Sq.) 8pm. 2nd Wednesday and last Friday of each month.

Cambridge, MA — Lesbian "coming out" group, weekly open rap group, meets at the Cambridge Women's Ctr., 46 Pleasant St. (Central Sq.) 8-10pm. Info: 354-8807.

Bridgewater, MA — South Shore Gay and Lesbian Alliance. Info: 584-4997.

Hampden County, MA — Social support group for lesbians. 8pm. Info: Debbie 532-5878 or Julie 532-4959.

Hyannis, MA — Lesbian Support Group meets 1st Wednesday of every month. 7:30pm. New members welcome. Orientation, social meetings. Warren Women's Center, 298 Main St. Info: 771-6739.

Nashua, NH — Greater Nashua Area of NH Lambda sponsors speakers and/or raps on 2nd Wednesdays and 4th Thursdays. 7:30pm. Business meets on 1st Saturdays. Info: (603) 889-1416.

Hartford, CT — Lesbian AA meeting. Hill Ctr., 350 Farmington Ave. 8pm. Info: 247-8797.

Cambridge — Lesbian Fat Liberation drop-in support group meets every last to 7pm.

Boston — Boston Alliance of Gay and Lesbian Youth (BAGLY). New persons' meeting 6:30pm; general meeting and group discussion 7-9pm. For youth 22 and under. Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St. (Beacon Hill) Info: 497-8282.

Boston, MA — Boston Gay Men's Chorus meets every week from 7-10pm at the YWCA, 140 Clarendon St. (Copley Sq.) Info: 522-6983.

Boston, MA — Fathers in Transition, a group of gay/bi fathers meeting for friendship and support. Info: Exodus Ctr., 266-0612, or write: Fathers in Transition, c/o GCN, Box 6, 167 Tremont St., Boston 02111.

Boston, MA — Lesbian and Gay Media Advocates (LAGMA). 7:30-9:30pm. New members welcome. Help make the media more responsive to our needs. Info: 542-5679.

Boston, MA — Lunchtime for lesbians. Isolated during the workday downtown? Interested in group? Come to 80 Boylston St. Rm. 855 (corner Boylston and Tremont). Noon. Info: 542-5188.

Cambridge, MA — Boston National Organization for Women (NOW) Lesbian Rights Task Force meets 4th Wednesdays at 99 Bishop Allen Dr. (Central Sq.) Plan lobbying, public education and consciousness raising. Info: 661-8015.

Cambridge, MA — Daughters of Bilitis discussion and social. Info: 661-8015.

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Hampden County, MA — Social support group for lesbians. 8pm. Info: Debbie 532-5878 or Julie 532-4959.

Hyannis, MA — Lesbian Support Group meets 1st Wednesday of every month. 7:30pm. New members welcome. Orientation, social meetings. Warren Women's Center, 298 Main St. Info: 771-6739.

Nashua, NH — Greater Nashua Area of NH Lambda sponsors speakers and/or raps on 2nd Wednesdays and 4th Thursdays. 7:30pm. Business meets on 1st Saturdays. Info: (603) 889-1416.

Hartford, CT — Lesbian AA meeting. Hill Ctr., 350 Farmington Ave. 8pm. Info: 247-8797.

Cambridge — Lesbian Fat Liberation drop-in support group meets every last to 7pm.

thursday

Cambridge, MA — Lesbian Liberation, an open discussion group. 8-10pm. Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. (Central Sq.) Info: 354-8807.

Cambridge, MA — Lesbians with children. Support group. 8-10pm. Cambridge Women's Ctr., 46 Pleasant St. (Central Sq.) Info: 354-8807.

Somerville, MA — TVTS Peer Support Group. Gender Clinic. Info: Martha 666-8280.

Northampton, MA — Pioneer Valley People's Gay Alliance meets 1st and 3rd Thursdays at the Unitarian Society, 220 Main St. 7:30pm. Info: (413) 584-7903 or write PO Box 181, Northampton 01061.

Hartford, CT — Gay Al-Anon meeting for lesbians and gay men at Trinity Church Parish House, Farmington Ave. 7:30pm. Info: 247-8797.

friday

Boston, MA — Gay Community News (that's us) always needs help sending out the paper on Friday evenings. Come by for a few hours to 167 Tremont St. 5th fl. (on the Common, near Boylston T stop) anytime after 6pm and lend a hand. Refreshments and good times! Every body well come! Info: 426-4469. Thanks!

Cambridge, MA — Amazon Lesbian Al-Anon. Mt. Auburn Hosp. Living Rm., Clark Bldg. 8-9:30pm. Newcomers meeting from 7-8pm on the 1st Friday. Info: Herb 485-5612.

Pittsfield, MA — Gay and Lesbian Alliance. Info: 499-2425.

Concord, NH — Concord Men's Group meets at 7:30pm for coffee and discussion. Info: Herb 485-5612.

Danbury, CT — Greater Danbury meets 4th Wednesdays at 99 Bishop Allen Dr. (Central Sq.) Plan lobbying, public education and consciousness raising. Info: 661-8015.

Cambridge, MA — Daughters of Bilitis discussion and social. Info: 661-8015.

Cambridge, MA — Lesbian "coming out" group, weekly open rap group, meets at the Cambridge Women's Ctr., 46 Pleasant St. (Central Sq.) 8-10pm. Info: 354-8807.

Bridgewater, MA — South Shore Gay and Lesbian Alliance. Info: 584-4997.

Hampden County, MA — Social support group for lesbians. 8pm. Info: Debbie 532-5878 or Julie 532-4959.

Hyannis, MA — Lesbian Support Group meets 1st Wednesday of every month. 7:30pm. New members welcome. Orientation, social meetings. Warren Women's Center, 298 Main St. Info: 771-6739.

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Beantown Softball League

STANDINGS
Buddies 11-5
Mailbox 11-5
Chaps 10-8
Paradise 8-8
Ramrod 6-10
1270 Men 3-11
1270 Women 0-14
Skippers

GAME RESULTS
July 6
Mailbox 21, Ramrod 10
Paradise 8, 1270 Women 3
July 9
Ramrod 14, 1270 Men 10
Buddies 12, Paradise 11
Chaps 7, 1270 Women 3
Mailbox 7, Skippers 0 (forfeit)
July 10
Buddies 8, Ramrod 7
Mailbox 12, Chaps 11
1270 Men 9, Paradise 6
1270 Women 7, Skippers 4



Rave reviews have helped extend the Broadway-bound *La Cage aux Folles*, directed by Toni winner (*Torch Song Trilogy*) Harvey Fierstein. At the Colonial now until July 30. Call 426-9366.



Allegra Productions presents Dovidia Ishatova, Susan Abod and others in *Bring Back Variety!* See July 22 and 23.

saturday

Providence, RI — Rhode Island Gay and Lesbian Youth meets every week from 1-5pm. For youth 14-21. Info: MCC 272-9247 or Gay Help Line 751-3322 (eves).

Boston, MA — Chiltern Mountain Club. Regularly scheduled sports and outdoor events. General info: John 275-1336; Linda 734-4066; Jay 864-0823. Volleyball: Jay 262-4896. Basketball: Kieran 232-7229.

Boston, MA — Front Runners/Boston. Gay men and lesbian running club. Info: 39 Milford, Boston 02118 or 451-6364.

Boston — More Chiltern Adventures. New Hampshire Lake Region bike trip. Call Jack (603) 889-3208 6-10 PM for info. Rockport, MA walk. Call Rudy before July 15 at 546-9597 evenings.

Boston — Help Cauldron Move! The Cauldron Experimental Theater is moving and needs your help. You'll get a free season's pass for loaning your truck or van. Call ahead 542-8575. Moving starts at 9 AM at the old space 22 Randolph St. The new location: 731 Harrison Ave., Bates Arts Center.

Boston — Community Networking Breakfast. These monthly get-togethers are held to facilitate intra-community cooperation and coalition building. 8-9:30 AM Cafe Calyso in the South End.

20 wednesday
Alston — BLGPA endorsed City Council candidate Brian McLaughlin. 7-10 PM at 1 Imrie Road. Donation \$10, \$5 low income. Info: 254-6143.

Boston — Lesbian Psychologies. Help plan conference for Lesbian Psychologies for 1984. Sponsored by the New England Association for Women in Psychology. Meeting starts at 7:30 PM. Information/location: 876-2400.

Boston — GCN Proofreading. No special experience necessary. Fun and Food! Early evenings. Info: 426-4469.

21 thursday
Boston — Lesbian Pregnancy Support. Speakers on "the pregnancy experience." 7:30 PM U/Mass Park Square, 250 Stuart St., Room 624. Free.

Boston — Improving Your Relationship. A free one hour lecture on the behavioral model for couples therapy given by Nancy Williamson, EdM. 7 PM Behavior Associates, 40 Newbury St. Advance reservations necessary: 262-9116.

friday
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22 friday
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18 monday
Boston — WRKO Talkradio. GCN's Managing Editor Cindy Patton and Eric Rofes, chair of BLGPA appear on the Jerry Williams talk show. WRKO 680 AM. 1-3 PM.

Cambridge — Resources & Publishing is the topic of the general meeting of Women Printers. 8 PM Cambridge Women's Center.

Boston — Drop-in on AIDS. Free drop-in support group for men concerned with AIDS. Every Monday 5:30-6:30 PM at Gay and Lesbian Counseling Services, 80 Boylston St., Rm. 855 (corner of Boylston & Tremont). Info: 542-5188.

17 sunday
Provincetown — My Blue Heaven. A two-act comedy by the late lesbian playwright Jane Chambers. Presented by the Pied Piper Theater. 376 Commercial. Thursdays through Sundays through August 14. Tickets are \$5. Reservations/information: (617) 487-1527.

Boston — BLGPA for DiCarra. The Alliance sponsors a fundraiser for Larry DiCarra, mayoral candidate in the South End. Info: 487-2979 or 247-3910.

Boston — AIDS: An Update on the Facts. An informational seminar presented by Simmons College Graduate Nursing Students. 3 PM. Randolph Country Club. Everyone welcome. Free.

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Boston — More Chiltern Adventures. New Hampshire Lake Region bike trip. Call Jack (603) 889-3208 6-10 PM for info. Rockport, MA walk. Call Rudy before July 15 at 546-9597 evenings.

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Boston — GCN Proofreading. No special experience

Quick Gay Guide

Boston Area (617)

INFORMATION/SERVICE/SOCIAL

LESBIAN AND GAY HOTLINE (6pm-Mid.) Mon-Fri 426-9371

BAGALS (Boston Area Lesbian and Gay Schoolworkers)

P.O. Box 178, Astor St., Boston, 02123

Black Men/White Men Social/Support Group

c/o GCN, Box 1, 167 Tremont St., Boston 02111

BAGLY (Boston Alliance of Gay and Lesbian Youth,

GCN Box 10GY, 167 Tremont, Boston 02111 497-8282

Boston Asian Gay Men & Lesbians

c/o Glad Day Bookshop, 43 Winter St Boston, 02108 542-0144

Boston Gay Men's Chorus 522-6983

Boston Institute for Gay Studies

Box 2750, Boston 02208 491-8245 or 720-0693

Boston Lesbian & Gay History Project

c/o Interrante, 24 Greenwich Pk #1, Boston 02118

Cauldron Exp. Theater, 22 Randolph St. 542-8575

Chiltern Mountain Club 275-1336

Box 104, 104 Charles St., Boston 02114

El Comite Latino de lesbianas y homosexuales de Boston

P.O. Box 365, Cambridge, 02139 783-5250 or 354-1755

Fathers in Transition (Gay/Bi), (Ex Ctr.)266-0621

c/o GCN, Box 6, 167 Tremont St., Boston 02111

Gay and Lesbian Physicians of

New England (617) 482-6874 or 247-5485

Gay Professional Men's Group 944-4818

Gay and Lesbian Speakers Bureau,

P.O. Box 2232, Boston 02107 354-0133

Lesbian and Gay Assoc. Engineers and Scientists

(LGAES/Boston)

P.O. Box 1417, Boston 02117 288-3228

Lesbian and Gay Folkdancing 661-7223

c/o GCN Box 5, 167 Tremont St., Boston, MA 02111

Lesbian & Gay History Project 424-1993

Lesbian and Gay Hotline (6-12pm) Mon-Fri 426-9371

Merrymount Music Soc.,

Box 401, 104 Charles St., Boston 02114 236-4888

Outreach Institute, Box 368, Kenmore St., 02215 277-3454

Parents and Friends of Gays

76 Brook Hill Rd, Milton, 02167 436-5393

Project Place, 32 Rutland St. 02118 267-9150

Transexual Hotline 568-0680

Triangle Theater, Box 127, 104 Charles St., Boston 02114

Watchline (Fri-Mon 7-10pm) 262-5250

POLITICAL/LEGAL

Boston Lesbian & Gay Political Alliance, Box 65,

Boston, 02117 247-3910

B.U. Gay and Lesbian Legal Association

B.U. Law School, 755 Comm. Ave.

Cambridge Gay Political Caucus,

c/o GCN, Box 2, 167 Tremont St., Boston, 02111

Civil Liberties Union of Mass. 742-8020

GLAD (Gay & Lesbian Advocates and Detenders)

100 Boylston Suite 900 Boston, 02116 426-1350

Harvard Committee on Gay and Lesbian Legal Issues

Roscoe Pound Hall, Cambridge, 02138

Lesbian/Gay Prisoner Project

c/o GCN, 167 Tremont, Boston 02111

Mass Gay Political Caucus 262-1565

Box 179, 118 Mass. Ave. Boston 02115

National Lawyers Guild,

14 Beacon St., Boston 02108 227-7335

STUDENT

Boston Intercollegiate Gay and Lesbian Alliance

c/o GAMIT, Rm 50-306, Cambridge 02139

Northeastern U. Lambda, 260 Eli Cir.,

360 Huntington Ave., Boston 02115 437-2738

GAMIT (Gays at MIT),

MIT 50-306 Walker, Cambridge 02139 253-5440

Harvard-Radcliffe Gay and Lesbian

Student Assoc., Harvard 197 Memorial

Hall, Cambridge 02138 495-5476

Harvard Lesbian and Gay Medical/Dental Students Group

Box 250c, 107 Ave. Louis Pasteur, Boston 02115

Babson College, Gay and Lesbian Alliance

Box A, Babson Park, Wellesley, 02157

Tutts U., Gay and Lesbian Community,

c/o Student Activities Off., Medford 02155 628-2828

Boston College G and L Support Group,

Haley House, Chestnut Hill 02167

Northeastern School of Law, Lesbian and Gay Caucus

400 Huntington Ave, Boston 02115

U/Mass/Boston, Lesbian and Gay Ctr.,

Rm 1-4-178, Dorchester 02125 929-8276

Brandeis U., Triskelion, Box 2792 Waltham 02254

Boston U., Gays and Lesbians/c/o Program Resources

Off.,

Sherman Union, Boston 02215

Yale Gay and Lesbian Alumni/Boston,

c/o GCN Box 7, 167 Tremont, Boston 02111

Wellesley Lesbians & Friends, Feminist Coop

Oakwoods, Wellesley Coll. Wellesley MA 02151

WOMEN

Aradia Counseling for Women, 520 Comm Ave

(Kenmore Sq.) 247-4861 x58

Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. 354-8807

Daughters of Bilitis, 1151 Mass. Ave.,

Cambridge 02138 661-3633

Dyke Doctors (Lesbian Physicians, Med Students

Health Prots) 354-5910

Gay Professional Women's Assn.,

Box 308, Boston U. Sta., Boston 02215

Lesbian Lawyers and Legal Workers

Lesbian Liberation, c/o Women's Center

Lesbian S/M Group 776-7957

National Organization for Women

99 Bishop Allen Dr., Cambridge 02139 661-6015

Somerville Women's Center, 1 Summer St., 02143 628-6311

Tutts Women's Center 628-5000 x3184

Women's Alcoholism Program,

1348 Cambridge St. Cambridge 02139 661-1316

RELIGIOUS

Am Tikva 782-8894

P.O. Box 11, Cambridge, 02138

Dignity, 355 Boylston St., Boston 02114 536-6518

Friends (Quaker) for Lesbian and

Gay Concerns, 5 Longfellow Pk., Cambridge

Integrity, P.O. Box 2582, Boston 02208 227-9118

Lutherans Concerned for Gay People

Metropolitan Community Church

Fr. Paul Shanley 523-7664

Unitarian Universalists Office of Lesbian/Gay Concerns

25 Beacon St., Boston 02108 964-0996

742-2100

MEDIA

Boston's Other Voice, WROR, 98.5FM

Dennis 353-0225

Fag Rag 661-7534

Gay Community News 426-4469

Good Gay Poets 661-7534

Lesbian and Gay Media Advocates (LAGMA)

c/o GCN, 167 Tremont, 02111

Musically Speaking (WMBR 88.1FM, Sun. 1-3)

Melanie 494-8810

Women's Educ. Media 47 Cherry St.

Somerville 02144 666-0350

MEDICAL/COUNSELING

AIDS Action Committee

c/o Fenway Community Health Center

16 Haviland St. 02115

AIDS Hotline

M-F 3-9pm Sat 10am-4pm 536-7733

Boston Free VD Info 1-800-272-2577

(8am-10pm, M-F)

Alcoholics Anonymous 426-9444

Exodus Ctr., 25 Huntington Ave. 02116 266-0612

Gay & Lesbian Counseling Service 542-5188

Gay AIAnon (families of alcoholics) 843-5300

Tapestry Inc. 20 Sacramento St.

Cambridge 02138 661-0248

Tutts Skin Care Clinic (VD treatment)

956-5293

Eastern Mass. (617)

INFORMATION/SERVICE/SOCIAL

Central Middlesex Social Club,

Box 470, Maynard 01754 236-4882

Frenz & Luvvers, Box 623,

Worcester 01601

Gay Hotline 756-0730

Mass Teachers Assoc./Gay Rights Caucus

P.O. Box 75, New Salem 01355

North Shore Gay and Lesbian Alliance

Box 806, Marblehead, 01945 745-3848

Survival Crisis Line 471-7100

So. Shore Gay & Lesbian Alliance

Box 712, Bridgewater 02324 584-4997

Tri-County Assoc., c/o 219 East Main St,

Milford 01757 473-3529

RELIGIOUS

Dignity Merrimack Valley, P.O. Box 321, Methuen 01844

MCC Worcester, 2 Wellington St., 753-8360

WOMEN

New Bedford Women's Clinic 996-3341

Origins, Inc., A Women's Center

169 Boston St., Salem 01970 745-5873

STUDENT

Clark U. Gay Alliance, 950 Main, A-70

Gay Outreach Assoc. for Lowell (Univ.) Students

South Campus, Student Union Rm 348 453-3804

Salem State Gay Task Force

Salem St. College, Salem 01970 745-0556 (ext. 209)

Western Mass. (413)

INFORMATION/SERVICE/SOCIAL

Berkshire County Gay Coalition, P.O. Box 1562,

Pittsfield 01201, 442-1819

Lesbian and Gay Men's Counseling Collective

406F Student Union, UMass, Amherst 545-2645

GALA (Gay And Lesbian Activists)

Box 1084, Northampton 01061

Help Line 664-6391, 664-6392

Pioneer Valley People's Gay Alliance

Box 181, Northampton, 01061 586-5979

Dignity/Springfield, P.O. Box 1604 Springfield 01101

WOMEN

Common Woman Club, 78 Masonic St.,

Northampton 01060 584-4580

Everywomen's Center, Amherst

Franklin Cty. Lesbian Alliance

P.O. Box 235, Deerfield 01342

Gay Women's Caucus, Amherst 545-3438

Lesbians United 33 Pearl St, Pittsfield, 01201 499-2425

New Alexandria Lesbian Library

Box 402, Florence, MA 01060 584-7616

Southwest Women's Center 545-0626

Valley Lesbian Alliance 665-4705; 253-3082, 774-5464

STUDENT

Hampshire College Gay Men's Alliance

Box 1355, Amherst 01002

Lesbian & Gay Men's Counseling Collective

406F UMass Student Union, Amherst 545-2645

Lesbian Union, 920 Campus Center,

UMass, Amherst 01003 545-3438

People's Gay Alliance, 413 Student Union RSO 242,

UMass Amherst 01003 545-0154

Williams Gay Peoples Union

S.U. Box 3212, Williams College, Williamstown 01267

Connecticut (203)

INFORMATION/SERVICE/SOCIAL

Black and White Men Together,

58 Winchester Ave., New Haven 06511

562-2906, 933-0185

Conn. Gay Task Force, P.O. Box 1139, New Haven 06505

Gay & Lesbian Alliance of Greater Danbury,

c/o Box 258-Westconn, 181 White St. Danbury 06810

Gay Switchboard, Hartford, M.S. 1-11 pm,

Sun 1-5 pm, P.O. Box 514, Hartford 06101

Gay and Lesbian Switchboard, New Haven,

P.O. Box 72, 06501; M-F 8-11 pm 624-6869

Gay Spirit (WWUH, 91.3FM) Thurs 8:30pm

George W. Henry Foundation (counseling),

45 Church St., Hartford 06103 522-2646

Greater Hartford Lesbian & Gay Taskforce

Institute of Social Ethics/Gay National Archives,

One Gold St. Suite 22-BC, Hartford 06103 249-7691

WOMEN

Gay Women's Collective, c/o Women's Center,

Box U-118, UConn, Storrs 06268 486-4738

Heartroots Feminist Therapy Collective,

22 Allen Pl. #B3, Hartford 06106 249-0504

Shorelinewoman 481-3575

Women's Center, Hartford, c/o Hill Ctr.,

350 Farmington Ave, Hartford 06106

Women's Center, Manchester Community

College, P.O. Box 1046, Manchester, 06040

Women's Center, UConn, Box U-118,

Storrs 06828 486-4738

Women's Center, Wesleyan, Box WW,

Wesleyan Sta., Middletown 06457

Women's Liberation Center, New Haven,

614 Orange St., New Haven 06510 347-9411

436-2488

STUDENT

Alternate Lifestyles Awareness Group,

Social Work House, Farnham Ave.,

New Haven 06515 397-4331

Eros, Gay Students at Trinity College

c/o Chaplain's Office, Hartford 06106

Gay Alliance at Yale,

P.O. Box 2031, Yale Sta., New Haven 06520

Gay Alliance, UConn, Box U-8, Storrs, 06268

Gay Alliance, Wesleyan, c/o Women's Center,

Box WW, Wesleyan Sta., Middletown, 06457 347-94

Theater

A Het Hit to Miss

Sugar Babies. Book by Ralph G. Allen based upon traditional material. Music by Jimmy McHugh, Lyrics by Dorothy Fields and Al Dubin. With Ann Miller, Mickey Rooney. At the Wang Center.

By Michael Bronski

Sugar Babies as musical entertainment — an alleged tribute to burlesque — is a sham and a fraud; as a cultural artifact it verges on pathology. When those connected with the genesis of *Sugar Babies* (on tour here after surviving more than four years on Broadway) are interviewed, they proclaim they thought it would be great fun to bring back the old burlesque shows. The fact of the matter is they needed some gimmick (in this case mindless shtick, Mickey Rooney and Ann Miller) to get the over-45 crowd back to a desperately dwindling Broadway box office. Although *Sugar Babies* uses some of the standard burlesque routines, it is a totally modern fabrication moulded and shaped to appeal to the audience of the '70s who want Las Vegas without travelling and entertainment without serious content.

Burlesque began late in the last century as broad farce that usually made fun of racial and ethnic stereotypes — Blacks, Italians and Germans were favorite targets. As vaudeville grew and began to attract a larger audience, burlesque became known for its more risqué, "adult" material interspersed between musical numbers: showgirls with garters, baggy pants comics with blue jokes, and slightly more overt sexuality gave it a distinct tone and feeling. Either in spite of or because of the inherent sexism, it was probably somewhat refreshing in more repressive times.

Sugar Babies is nothing more than a sloppy patchwork of burlesque bits and other material strung together in a fairly elaborately mounted (but tacky-looking) production. The concocters of the show have shown very good taste by filling it with Jimmy McHugh and Dorothy Fields songs: "I feel a Song Comin' On", "Exactly Like You", "I Can't Give You Anything But Love, Baby" and "I'm in the Mood for Love" are all great. Unfortunately, most of them were not written for burlesque and were only included because they were familiar crowd-pleasers.

The skits, however, are a different matter. No one really expects bawdy humor to be politically correct, but you expect it at least to be funny. Most of the jokes here are hoary old chestnuts which



might be funnier if the timing were better. There are, of course, the usual "large breast" jokes (formerly known as "big tit" jokes); these were part and parcel to the genre. What is shocking here is that a huge number of the jokes — perhaps more than half — are castration anxiety jokes: limp-dick-jokes, small dick jokes and even real castration jokes. The sexiness of the early burlesque shows was meant to relieve the tension brought about by sexual repression; here the tension, fear, and by extension, hostility to women, are not expunged but dragged kicking and screaming onto the stage.

Burlesque and vaudeville eventually gave way to the operetta and then to the musical comedy, one of the few truly American art forms. There has always been a gay sensibility connected with the genres: a campiness, a frothiness, and a slightly satirical quality that gave them an added dimension. Sometimes this took the form of the make-believe world of Jerome Kern's *Roberta* or, more explicitly, Sondheim's crypto-gay *Company*.

American musical theater has been growing during the past 20 years. (Even a stupid show like *Applause* had a gay main character as early as 1970.) As the culture changed, the Broadway stage was becoming more mature, more intelligent, and more sophisticated in dealing with real life. *Sugar*

Babies is not a tribute to burlesque; it's a fake pastiche patched together to please the most common denominator, a throwback to all the repressive sexual fears and loathings we have spent the past 50 years trying to overcome. Unfortunately, those two Hollywood icons of bizarre sexuality — Mickey Rooney (who turned from the all American boy to a dirty old man with nothing in between) and Ann Miller (of the immovable face and hair, who tapped rather than acted) — seem to be completely at home here.

If *Sugar Babies* has a cause it is a conservative reaction to newer, more enlightened aspects of culture and theater. Endless castration jokes and repeated prostitution (in this show all women are prostitutes) jokes are only funny to people who really believe sex is dirty. (Of course the real joke is that the mixing of the two is somewhat incongruous: women insist on getting paid by men who can't do it.)

A great deal of the growth of the American musical has been due to gay input, which has brought some class and an edge to the material (*I, a Cage aux Folles* is a fine example.) *Sugar Babies* is a giant step backward, a fall into the chasm of both bad taste and bad karma. Let's hope that it is not the beginning of the heterosexualization of the American musical.

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King

Continued from page 9

supporting. These are now folk who are raising questions of the kind of services they want that are free of the very kind of behavior they're exhibiting in relationship to me. And their failure to join my campaign is a way of saying that they are supporting racism.

LG: One complaint from the lesbian and gay community has to do with your decision not to endorse Bill Owens in 1982.

MK: We met and we talked about his becoming a Republican given Reaganomics and all this stuff, that it was the wrong thing to do, to put on the people the fact that he was going to become a Republican. He could have become an independent.... Are people upset that I didn't endorse Senator Owens?

LG: I think the question is how could you not support someone who was supportive of gay men and lesbians who was opposed by someone who was not supportive?

MK: It's a little deeper than that, because if the only issue you're going to address is that one, then that's right. But that's where things come down in relationship to the black community, because if the community itself says that they don't want to support somebody who gets identified with Reaganomics and a Republican administration that is doing them in, and then the gay community says 'Well, never mind that, here's something where we want you to go and ignore those issues' — you don't build coalitions on that basis.

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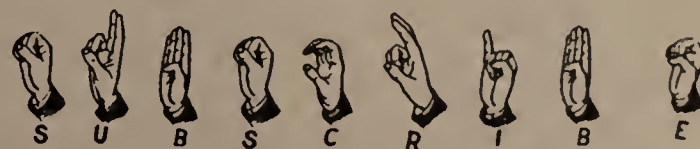


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Lambda

Continued from page 7

length features. Because the response was so great, beginning with the following issue (Vol. 1, No. 2) the magazine was enlarged to two cassettes providing twelve and one-half hours of information.

The *Quarterly's* articles themselves cover a wide range of topics: personalities, travelogues, features of events and history, in-depth analyses, court decisions which have major implications, trends in lesbian and gay culture, and book reviews. Terry reported that 25 percent of the materials have an exclusively gay theme, 25 percent an exclusively lesbian theme and the remaining 50 percent are directed to both groups.

The Center staff members who are responsible for selecting articles try to keep subject balance in mind when going through the various papers. They reject articles which hold only a local interest or stories which would become dated before the end of the quarter. Stories which appeared in the April 1983 issue (Vol. 11, No. 4) include: "The Artful Spirit of Santa Fe" by Scott Anderson from *The Advocate* No. 361; "Where Coupling Begins: Meeting in Likely and Unlikely Places" by Donald Vining from *The Advocate*, No. 356; "Disabled Lesbian Tells Her Story: No Longer Alone" by Linda Gwizdak from *Gay Community News*, Vol. 10, No. 33; "The Frontiers of S & M" by George Whitmore from *Christopher Street*, Feb. 1981; "Cincinnati's John Zeh Lubricating the Airwaves" by George Heymont, from *The Advocate*, No. 354; "Ann Bannon: The Mystery Solved" by

Maida Tilchen from *Gay Community News*, Vol. 10, No. 25; and "Gay Games I: Fond Memories, Difficult Questions" by Robert Ellgass from *Gay Community News*, Vol. 10, No. 29. Also included on this issue is a list of materials available from the Womyn's Braille Press.

Occasionally, articles which originated outside of the gay and lesbian press are featured if they hold special interest to subscribers of the *Quarterly*. For example, included in the April 1983 issue was the article, "AIDS: A New Disease's Deadly Odyssey" by Robin Marantz Henig from the *New York Times* dated Feb. 6, 1983.

As in many print newspapers and magazines, the *Quarterly* also provides a Personals section to develop an interchange among print-handicapped people themselves and with sighted people who want to get to know or read to blind people in their local communities. These brief personals are provided free of charge, but Terry emphasizes that donations are always welcomed from sighted people placing ads. Here are a few examples of personals which have appeared in the *Quarterly*:

I'm interested in corresponding with blind gays throughout the country either by braille or by phone. I'm 36 years old and I weigh 160 lbs and stand about 5 feet 7 inches. I like all types of music, especially rock from the '50s and '60s. Some of my interests are music, creative writing, meeting other people, writing letters, electric computer games and travel. Write in braille or phone _____

Wish to meet people, especially for sex and j.o. name _____

A new feature was begun in the April 1983 issue that promises to continue and expand in upcoming issues. It is the Letters to the Editor section. It was conceived to provide for subscriber feedback to the *Quarterly* and to share information and experiences. The first letter to be included was from a Canadian subscriber thanking LRC for helping him to meet other gay men since magazines for blind people in Canada do not carry a Pen Pals or Letters section. This, he continued, helps keep blind people isolated from one another. He also told of a Canadian governmental policy of censoring and banning print gay books in Canada. For the time being, the *Quarterly* is his primary link to the gay blind community.

To spark subscriber contributions to the letters section, Terry is soliciting letters from blind gay men and lesbians on the topic: "How do you take the first step in meeting people?" Subscriber responses are scheduled to appear in the July 1983 issue (Vol. 11, No. 1). When asked that same question, Terry said that he likes to place personals in gay newspapers. In his ad, he makes no mention of his blindness. He prefers to meet people this way because when someone responds to the ad on the phone, according to Terry, "I can have a head-to-head communication with someone without any of the stereotypes about my blindness being involved. In this situation I'm on an equal footing."

"By the voice," he continued, "I can tell a lot about the person:

whether he is interested in me, whether he is gentle, nervous, bored, and if he is intelligent. Then I make the determination if I want to meet him or not."

To subscribe to the *LRC for the Blind Quarterly*, print-handicapped people have two options: the returnable plan which is a \$5.00 per year registration fee that enables the subscriber to receive four issues each to be returned to the Center; and a purchase plan that costs \$12.00 per year and enables the subscriber to keep each issue. As is also the case when listening to the recorded books, in order to be able to play the *Quarterly*, the subscriber must have a four-track tape player which plays at slower speeds. The center can provide information on how to obtain one of these players.

Tapes Books and Readers

At the present time, LRC has recorded about 45 complete books on a wide range of categories. Here are many of the categories and a few examples of recorded books available: Short Stories (*Aphrodisiac: Selected Short Stories from Christopher Street*, published by *Christopher Street Magazine* and *A True Likeness: Lesbian and Gay Writing Today*, edited by Felice Picano), Non-Fiction Anthology (*Lavender Culture*, edited by Karla Jay and Allen Young), Drama (*Torch Song Trilogy*, by Harvey Fierstein), History (*Christianity, Social Tolerance and Homosexuality* by John Boswell), Mystery (The first 5 Brandstetter Mysteries of Joseph Hansen). There are also books on sociology, biography,

and religion; there are fiction, sex manuals, poetry, scholarly materials and also the *Gayellow Pages*, which lists businesses, bars, baths, churches, and political, social and student organizations in the United States and Canada that are patronized by lesbians and/or gay men.

The return plan for books consists of a \$10.00 per year fee which entitles the subscriber to order as many books as he or she wants or to purchase books for \$1.50 per cassette. To insure complete subscriber privacy when ordering a book, all titles are listed by number and, according to John, "A person could theoretically order by number on the phone or when dictating a letter and not really have to designate the book title." Also, as a means of insuring privacy, titles are printed in braille on all cassette books and the address of the Center is printed "LRC for the Blind" which, John asserts, "could mean anything."

There is a core of about 25 volunteer sighted readers at any given time. The screening process usually revolves around an audition which includes a reading of a *Quarterly* article onto a cassette. Potential readers are judged on their tonal qualities, clarity, pronunciation and whether or not they sound interested in what they are reading. Some of these volunteers have experience in acting, public speaking, singing and even radio announcing. An attempt is made to have a man read a gay male related article or book and a woman to read lesbian related materials, whenever possible.

Subscribers

"The Lambda Resource Center provides a very valuable service for me. The quality of the recordings are extremely high and the readers are good. I even met a reader through the 'Personals' section in the *Quarterly*. He comes over to my apartment and reads me gay novels."

Voicing these words is David.
Continued on page 17

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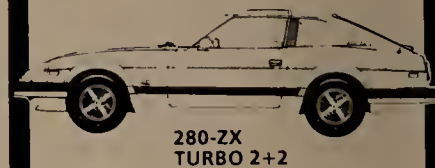
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Continued from page 16

an LRC subscriber, a social worker in Boston, and a gay man. He suffers from glaucoma which is an increased pressure build-up in his eyes that has left him legally blind. Though he can read print with difficulty with the aid of a hand-held magnifier, he prefers to listen to recorded materials.

David has been a subscriber of LRC for the past two years and in that time has ordered about twelve books in addition to the *Quarterly*. When asked about his favorite articles in the *Quarterly*, he stated that since he doesn't get to travel very often, he particularly enjoys the travelogue stories, specifically those which told about the gay side of Santa Fe, Mississippi, and North Carolina.

David joins approximately 200 other print handicapped subscribers of LRC from 36 states and Canada. Subscribers vary widely in their backgrounds. According to John Feldman, "Some are college students, some unemployed [about 70 percent of the blind people in the United States are unemployed]. There are psychologists, social workers, those who are older, younger and all races and religions. Some are into S&M, watersports — all facets of sexuality."

One of the Center's current goals is to increase the number of people who use its services. One means of accomplishing this is by advertising in the various journals from the conventional organizations which serve blind people. Stephen Hunt, serving in his position as the Center's acquisitions, outreach and public relations coordinator, has sent publicity announcing their services to these organizations with only a partial degree of success.

Relations with Traditional Organizations

As Terry has indicated in his opening remarks, much of the conservatism which may be exhibited by many blind people is often due in part to the conservative nature of the organizations which serve them. At a school for the education of blind people in a suburb of Boston, some of the sex education teachers refused to include those sections of the curriculum which mentioned homosexuality, giving as their reasons, "The students are already different from most people in the society therefore we don't have to teach them how to be more different."

Though the reasoning may not be the same as at this school, some organizations have either refused to run informational announcements about the services that the Center provides or have severely restricted what it may say. *Matilda Ziegler*, a journal in braille and recorded format, did finally consent to run an announcement only after the LRC's staff agreed to make a compromise by substituting the words "alternative lifestyle" for "gay and lesbian." The journal's editor indicated that her readers would not respond well to any mention of homosexuality and therefore she would not carry the ad without this change.

Another journal, *The Dialogue*, similarly asked LRC to reword an ad back in 1980. However, this year the publication did list an LRC announcement without any prompting from the Center. This time they included the words "gay and lesbian." Terry jokingly quipped, "I guess they now consider Lambda to be legit."

One organization that has repeatedly turned down all requests for publicity from LRC has been the powerful National Federation of the Blind (NFB), the largest and most vocal private organization, which has a history of leading the fight for the rights of blind people. At their national convention held in Minneapolis in July 1982, the NFB leadership refused to approve Terry and John's simple request that a statement announcing their group's existence be read over the loudspeakers during a plenary session. Though similar requests from many other groups and individuals were honored, the Center's was simply ignored. Also, after an appeal by LRC, the editors of *The Braille Monitor*, the internal organ of NFB, would not permit any mention of the Center in their publication and declined comment on their refusal.

All has not been on the negative side, however, regarding the relationship of LRC to traditional agencies. The Jewish Guild for the Blind (JGB) located in New York, has an ongoing grant to record best-sellers. JGB has recorded about 12 gay and lesbian best-sellers and has authorized LRC to distribute them. According to

John, "This is a milestone for us to be working with a larger organization in this way."

The Future

By the time this article reaches publication, Terry and John should be back home from their vacation rested and refreshed and ready to continue their efforts with Stephen at the Lambda Resource Center for the Blind. While in Boston they told of their plans to expand their activities and services. Their enthusiasm and commitment seemed so contagious that I almost had a mind to move to Chicago myself to lend them a hand.

John told of a few projects which will call for volunteer input. The Gay Task Force of the American Library Association has given them the job of updating and expanding the scope of their bibliography, which will include a small synopsis of each book. Also, they have applied for a grant from the Chicago Resource Center to purchase new recorders, a new duplicator, and a machine called a VersaBraille which is a braille word processor that can be used by both blind and sighted people who are familiar with the braille code. This machine, along with a braille printer, will make it easier for the Center to produce braille materials, such as sections of the *Gayellow Pages* by region of the country, when requested by subscribers. It will also make it easier and faster to create braille letters, bibliographies and announcements.

Terry and John emphasize that donations — especially of the financial variety, but also materials and time — are always welcomed. (Financial contributions are tax deductible.) If you would like to contribute tapes, they request that you send Maxell XL2S C-90 cassettes or Maxelle UD-3490 1800 foot reel-to-reel. For those in the Chicago area, volunteer readers of books and articles for the *Quarterly* are always needed. Also, to continue the Center's efforts in establishing a national network of sighted readers, volunteers are requested to list with them. It's a good way to make a new friend.

The Lambda Resource Center can be reached at 3225 North Sheffield, Chicago, IL 60657. Its phone number is (312) 274-0510.

funding include \$13.8 million for the Centers for Disease Control and \$36.2 million for the National Institutes of Health. In the current year, both agencies together will spend about \$26 million dollars, assuming that the Congressional appropriation for \$12 million passes or funds for it are re-programmed by the Reagan administration.

Staffers at the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services were unavailable for comment, as the 1984 appropriations for AIDS was being marked up behind closed doors.

— filed from New York

Newspaper

Continued from page 1

ment-advocacy press' for that matter. 'The gay press' is simpler, fairer and less contorted."

"It was an unfortunate usage," said Nelson, an AP employee who is also a frequent contributor to *GCN*. "We had hoped that the caucus would start out with a bridgehead of sensitive coverage, but it doesn't look like we can assume that any straight editor or reporter is aware that 'gay' is preferable to 'homosexual.'"

Nelson said the caucus of gay union members consisted of "only a handful of people so far," but said he hoped the caucus would be able to grow through the distribution of a newsletter and networking.

— filed from Boston

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AIDS

Continued from page 1

Bush added that GRNL had not presented its funding proposals to the appropriations subcommittees, the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services; and the GRNL director Steven Endean was currently on vacation while the 1984 appropriation was being marked up in committee.

In response to Bush's allegations that Endean was on vacation during the appropriations mark-up, Endean told *GCN*, "FY '84 mark-up was yesterday [July 13]. I was in the office and on the phone to staffpeople of Reps. Boxer and Burton and others. To say that I was on vacation during the mark-up is hogwash. This is part of a continuing smear campaign that I'm growing sick and tired of."

Endean also shared his view of the controversy surrounding the NGTF and GRNL funding proposals. Endean explained that NGTF had a \$100 million figure and GRNL had a \$50 million figure. NGTF got their figure by calculating patient care costs.

"We first arrived at our figure by doubling the FY '83 appropriation, but later in a meeting with congressional staffers and agency officials, a figure of \$52 million was given to us as what they could spend on scientifically justified research," said Endean.

Endean pointed out that funding figures proposed by both

NGTF and GRNL must be seen within the contexts of the functions of both groups. He said, "NGTF travels around the country raising people's consciousness and funds and advocating in more general ways. GRNL has to be able to go to Congress with attainable, realistic figures."

Endean went on, "But it in fact serves me well to be able to go up to Capitol Hill and say that some groups in the community have called for \$100 or even \$200 million dollars because it gives us a context in which to work."

Endean said he and Ginny Apuzzo, executive director of NGTF, will meet next week to discuss how the two groups might better coordinate their work.

Bart Church told *GCN* that it is "absolutely incorrect that we have told Congressional staffers that NGTF's proposals were irresponsible or radical." Church noted that GRNL lobbyist, Jim Corman, a former Democratic Congressman from California, had been in touch with "virtually every member of the House Appropriations subcommittee" about the figure.

Church noted that GRNL had to work day-in and day-out with Congressional staffers, and though he understood why NGTF would lobby for a higher figure, GRNL had to retain credibility with Congressional funding committees.

The agency requests for FY '84

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APARTMENT AVAILABLE
Porter Sq area 1 bdrm 385/mo, ht, hw inc. Conv to trans avail 7/15. 776-7351 after 6 pm. (2)

Malden, character & charm 4 rm apt in gothic Victorian hse nr T. Bay windows, mod kit, bth, frig. Free storage, laundry avail. Pref discreet, quiet person. \$375 inc heat. No dogs. 324-2279 eves. Avail 8/15. Caring owners. (3)

SERVICES

THERAPY GROUP FOR LESBIANS
Gay & Lesbian Counseling Services is now forming a support group for lesbians in close relationships with incest survivors (lovers, friends, family members). For info & appt call GLCS, (617) 542-5188. Sliding fee scale, insurance accepted. (c)

GAY MEN'S THERAPY GROUP
Has openings. Focus is on self-awareness, intimacy, & relationships. For info call Francis Giambone 628-6988

HOUSECLEANING BOSTON AREA
Home, Condos, Apt, Office
Have References
Call James 782-7615. (15)

THERAPY GROUPS FOR GAY MEN
Gay & Lesbian Counseling Services is now forming general issues & coming out therapy groups for gay men. For info & appt call GLCS, (617) 542-5188. Sliding fee scale, insurance accepted. (c)

Housecleaning, plant/pet care, errands, clerical help, including typing John 661-1526, 7-10 pm Reliable, references. (2)

CAN'T SAY NO?

Cognitive and TA therapy approach for self-actualization, depression, anxiety, guilt. All insurance accepted. Copley Sq office 739-6381. (5)

THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE

Swedish, Esalen, Shiatsu, Reflexology. Special rate for dancers, students, senior citizens. Gift certificates available. 262-1000 ext 298 Tu-Sat 12-7. (6)

TYPESETTING

Want the best??? Let GCN typeset your resume, flier, brochure, newsletter, magazine. You name it! Reasonable rates. Call 426-4469 and ask for Nancy Wechsler.

Counseling for Individuals,
Couples and Groups
Career Assessment
BELLVILLE ASSOCIATES
Copley Square
(617) 739-7803

**MASS. BAY
COUNSELING ASSOCIATES
COPLEY SQUARE
INDIVIDUALS, COUPLES
AND GROUP COUNSELING
ALCOHOL COUNSELING
HYPNOTHERAPY
SEX THERAPY
INSURANCE ACCEPTED
(617)353-0225 for appt.**

PUBLICATIONS

FOCUS

FOCUS is happy to announce its eighth annual prose contest. \$35.00 prize for best short story or essay. Work must be previously unpublished. Stories & essays should not exceed twelve double-spaced typewritten pages. Focus has first publication rights on all entries submitted. Entries must be postmarked no later than Sept. 3, 1983. Send entry & SASE (for return) to Focus: A Journal for Lesbians, 1151 Massachusetts Ave, Cambridge, MA 02138.

FOCUS: A JOURNAL FOR LESBIANS
Now soliciting manuscripts for special issue on pets what they mean to us, pets we've had etc (deadline Aug 30) Send submissions to Focus, 1151 Mass Ave Camb, MA 02138 Subs (\$8.00/yr) always welcome too

ORGANIZATIONS

GAY MEN'S COVEN

Gay sharing positive energies in a Gardnerian Wicca context. Monthly meetings for new men as well as initiation directed study. Groups in NYC & Seattle. Kathexis Anthropol Coven, Box 4538, Sunnyside, NY 11104. Member Covenant of the Goddess. (7)

BOSTON LESBIAN/GAY CATHOLICS
Dignity/Boston sponsors a liturgy for Lesbian/Gay and concerned Catholics every Sunday at Arlington Street Church (Boston), right side entrance on Arlington St., at 5:30 pm. For info call Dignity/Boston MF 7-10 pm, Sun 2-5 pm, 536-6518. DIGNITY/BOSTON, 355 Boylston St., Boston, MA 02116. (c)

GAY LESBIAN AND JEWISH?

Am Tikva welcomes you. Activities include religious observances, discussions, potluck dinners, folk dancing, etc. For events, check GCN Calendar, call (617) 782-8894 or write PO Box 11, Camb, MA 02238.

DYKE DIVERS

Lesbian Scuba Diving group being formed. A great way to find Dive Partners & a group to go with on local (NE) dive trips this summer. Susan 646-1992 eves. (2)

N AMER MAN/BOY LOVE ASSOC

A support group for intergenerational relationships. For information send \$1 to: NAMBLA — GCNAD, PO Box 174, New York, NY 10018. (48)

D.O.B.

Suppt orgnzn for lesbians, 1151 Mass Ave, Camb, Old Bap. Raps evry Tues, Thurs 8 pm; 35 pls rap 2nd Wed, last Fri, 8 pm & 3rd Sat 7 pm; Parents & Coparents rap 1st & 3rd Mons, 8 pm. Softball evry Sun 3 pm Apr-Sept, weathr permittng. Magazine Fld Bimonthly mag FOCUS \$8. Mnthly social & fundraisng event. Info & office hrs 661-3633. All women invited to participate.

GCN SPECIALS

IF YOU HAVE A PAPER CUTTER

Please consider giving it to us, that is, if it is a spare, gathering dust in your basement or attic or if you are using it to hold your plants (how terribly chic!) and might be willing to make a noble sacrifice. . . . We could really make very good use of a paper cutter, according to Mike Riegler, who should know. . . . Please call him if you wanna give us the ax. . . . 426-4469. Thank you.

EVEN THOUGH IT'S HOT

Some folks at GCN can stand the heat and want a toaster oven for cooking their mini meals (I've heard this before, haven't you?) Apparently the one we have is kinda kaputski and we need a replacement so the food can be burned in style. Please call Mike Riegler if you want to play Summer Santa 426 4469 (the most popular number in the East!) Thank you

On the topic of food so divine, For a **hot plate** the staff members pine. If you have one to give, it would help us to live. Call four two six four four six nine

AND SOME OF US CAN'T STAND THE HEAT

Now, who do you suppose that is??? Well, in addition to that strange one Mike Riegler has put in a special request for a *small fan*. That other person doesn't know how small is small but guesses it's less than 20 inches but not a tiny desk size, single armpt type cooler New? You know the number. What, you forgot??? It must be the heat 426-4469 Ha. Thank you

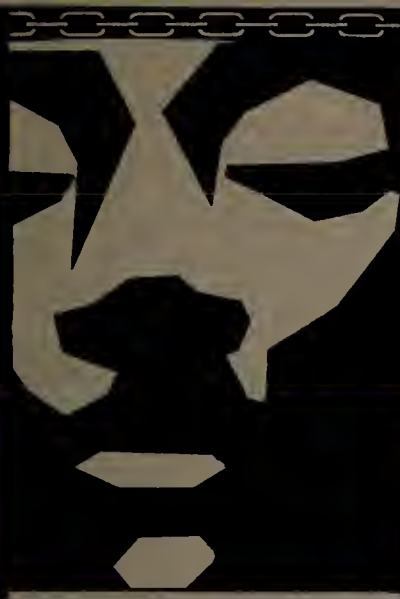
ARE YOU STRONG ENOUGH??

We are looking for someone(s) who would like to help out by doing some fairly heavy physical lifting of drawers (no one in particular's, don't get excited) with papers, etc—for GCN Archives. Mike will be eternally grateful for your assistance. Please call him at 426-4469 and lend a truly helping hand. Thank you.

FIRE! FIRE!

It feels like we're on fire in here in the summer. We would very much appreciate any small fans (no bigger than 20 inch babies) you could give us. Bob Andrews gave one to Nancy Walker last year, but it has been taken by those who think they need it more. So Walker is still stifling (which many would like to be literally true). If you can help out in this hot flash, please call Michael at 426-4469. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

While still on the topic of heat I said, "Ice cubes just cannot be beat." My colleagues agreed that we have the need. Some ice cube trays would be a treat. If any of you dear readers would like to bestow an ice cube tray or two upon us, we would be most grateful recipients thereof. Just come by or call Michael or send a postcard, a love letter, a telegram, or anything but smoke signals — they make us nervous. Thanks. You know the number by now, don't you??? OK, OK 426-4469



TO ALL THOSE WHO IN AND OUT OF PRISON FIGHT AGAINST THEIR BONDAGE (Alexander Berkman, Prison Memoirs of an Anarchist).



Down and lonely stud, 23 years old, wants comfort from sweet-hearted fem. Lisa SMITH, W17486, Cal. Inst. for Women, Miller A 29L, Frontera CA 91720.

Assertive female desires fresh and intelligent correspondence. Fems preferred. Thanx for being there. D. Dayton, CIW W15805, Miller A 32U, Frontera CA 91720.

I'm 25, Native American and a dyke. I'm looking for friends who are interested in helping to change the prison system from warehouses to places of learning and growing. I am also an artist and play the guitar. Catherine CASTANEDA, 43375, ACTC-P-Santa Maria, Box 3400, Goodyear AZ 85338.

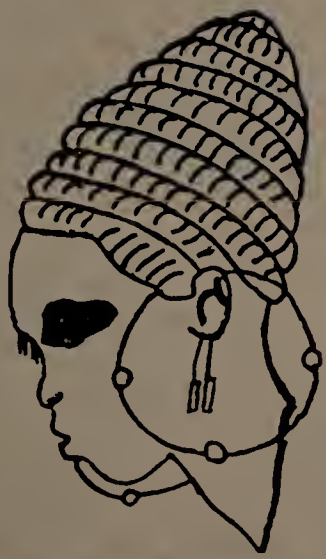


GCN GAY AND LESBIAN PRISONER PROJECT

We send free papers, books (when they are donated and when money for postage is donated) and run free penpal ads. (There's sometimes a long waiting list because of limited space.) Little by little as we get more volunteer labor power we'll be looking for other ways to support lesbians and gay men behind bars. If you can help with your time or a contribution (of money or paperbacks), please send to Gay and Lesbian Prisoner Project, c/o GCN, 167 Tremont St., 5th Fl., Boston, MA 02111. Thanks!

I paint, handcarve, surf (when of the streets), play chess and am a quiet person. By trade I build custom cabinets. I sure would like to hear from someone in the gay scene. Mitchell SAMPSON, 062256, PO Box 158 G/534, Lowell, FL 32663

Sorry I took so long to respond to your letter asking if I was still getting my GCN. I had an encounter with a group of queerbashers in here and ended up in the hospital for awhile. I'm awfully lonely right now since the administration has split me up from the only person I truly loved and trusted. I would appreciate being put in your penpal space. Thank you. Michael PARROTT, 13941, Box 14, Boise, ID 83707



Note on stamps: If you're going to write a prisoner for the first time and want to increase your chances of getting some kind of reply, whether they're interested or not, you might send a self-addressed, embossed return envelope, since sometimes mailroom guards steal the stamps which are loose, and prisoners often literally don't have money for stamps.

I guess you were right about prison officials throwing away copies of your paper, but I'm not inclined to give up so easily. If I can get a pen pal, maybe they could get their used copy of the paper in to me. Please put in an ad for me. Love to write and share laughter thru the mails with some one who feels the same. Thomas HOBSON, U-27 36952, Parchman MS 38738.

I'm an individual interested in giving of myself, my love, my resources and knowledge to help you. I have experienced many interesting worlds. Michael EASON, PO Box 7000, Texarkana TX 75501.

Transvestite seeking lovers relationship with 25 or older man. Please be sincere and as open as you like. I await and will answer all replies. Send photo if possible. Thanks so much, 'April'. Israel PERKINS, 98127, Camp J. Gar 3/R-11, Angola LA 70712.

I've been gay ever since I was 12 years old but I don't have any sex in here. It would be very hard on me. I think you can understand. Also I like reading about politics and other people's lives, especially gay people. So any reading material (used) would be much appreciated. Russell (Rusty) HUX, 122041, Box 500, Boydton VA 23917.

I wish your paper had a more multi-issue approach, maybe favoring sexual freedom in general, especially prostitution. Such a broader base would be desirable in many ways. Among other things the paper would have a broader acceptability, such as in prison, because more different kinds of people would see it as benefiting them in some way. Thanks for the chance to use your penpal space though! Here's my ad. SEX, DOPE, AND ROCK 'N ROLL? I'm doing three years for \$10 worth of pot (My real "crime" was organizing a pot-petition.) If you want the right to get high and enjoy, I'd love to hear from you Robert GEBERT, Camp C62868, Represa CA 95671

Prisoners Seeking Friends

Readers (inside and out): Almost all ads are taken from much longer letters which we cannot print in full in the free space GCN has provided. Even so, there's usually a waiting list of 3 to 6 weeks and ads usually only run once or twice (unless we can't get new ones done because of other work).



I got here for man boy love and now am swinging toward man man love. Anyone who wants to write would be appreciated. Thank you very much for everything your paper has done for me. I came out last year and thought I was the only gay around. Your paper helped me to see that I am gay and love it! Thanks to you all. James TORGET, 3102 E. Highland Ave., N-21, Patton, CA 92369

Artist, loves music, reading. Seeking correspondence. Anywhere, any age or race. Amos BLAND, 076644, Box 1100 #1570, Avon Park FL 33825

Basically mellow guy with varied interests including NAMBLA flying camp, ping, etc. SASE helpful. Thomas ANDERSON 115426, Box 220, Hominy OK 74035.

Gay man would like to correspond with someone on the outside. Albert GAGNE, 30 Admin Rd, Bridgewater MA 02324

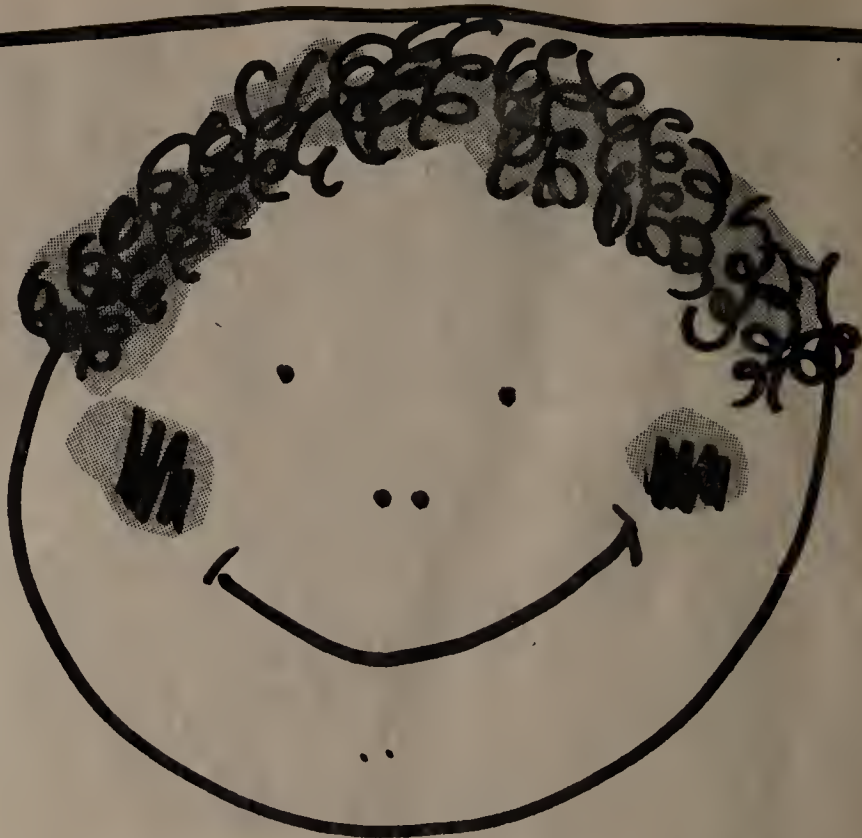


In order for me to keep my head somewhat together, I have to reach out for some intellectual stimulation. I have three years of college, mostly physics and business administration. I'm also 'gay' although I must admit that sometimes I'm depressed (a joke), so I have problems communicating with the other inmates. They feel that if a prisoner is gay he has no rights at all. I'm interested in writing anyone who'd like to write a gay prisoner. James MANUEL, 96839, Camp C Tiger 2-R-3, Angola LA 70712.

Editor seeks letters from prisoners about their true sex experience in prison and before prison for anonymous publication in his books. Prisoners will receive a copy of any book containing their letters. Only true accounts, not fantasy; just the plain facts, the real thing, written as you'd tell a friend, with four-letter words. Please send to Boyd McDonald, Box 977, Radio City Station, New York City 10101.



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name _____

address _____

city _____ state _____ zip _____

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Thank!